

# All Around Pennsauken



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THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

VOL. 22, NO. 12

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

December 2017

## Parade Of Lights To Be Held On December 15

Mark your calendars! An evening of lights, local heroes, and a visit from Santa is coming to Pennsauken.

The Township's first-ever Parade of Lights will be held on Friday, Dec. 15 at 7:00 p.m. Fire trucks and emergency service vehicles will be decorated with bright lights and festive decorations as they ride along Browning Rd. from Witherspoon to Maple Ave. In addition, Santa Claus is sure to make an appearance, riding a fire engine at the end of the parade, which should take roughly an hour from start to finish.

"This has all the makings of a great holiday event," says Bill Orth, Pennsauken Township Committee. "We hope that the entire Pennsauken community joins us for this special holiday celebration in the Bloomfield section of town."

Pennsauken Township is also looking for area businesses to have a vehicle decorated in lights for the parade. Interested parties can contact Duke Martz for more information: (856) 665-1000 x151.

For more information, visit [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us).



Pennsauken's first-ever Parade of Lights will be held Friday, Dec. 15 along Browning Rd.

## New, Unwrapped Toys Needed For Angel Tree Program

Pennsauken residents and businesses are pitching in to help children in the community during the holiday season through the Angel Tree program, which collects new, unwrapped toys for families in need.

"The Angel Tree makes a real difference for Pennsauken families in need," says Elwood "Duke" Martz, director of Pennsauken's Parks and Recreation Department. "Thanks to the generosity of our community, many children who were going to wake up on Christmas morning without any presents are now going to have a gift under the tree."

Last year, over 50 Pennsauken families were helped through the Angel Tree program; the initiative for 2017 plans to support the same number of families.

The Angel Tree was started well over 20 years ago by then administrator Ken Caruth and Bernie Kofeet, who served the Township for many years as the superintendent of Pennsauken's Public Works Department. The two placed a Christmas Tree at the Penn Queen Diner, allowing



Pennsauken Township is asking for donations for this year's Angel Tree Program. Through the generosity of residents, presents, like the ones seen here from a previous holiday collection drive, will go to over 50 Pennsauken families in need, just in time for Christmas.

both patrons and members of the community an opportunity to help their neighbors in need during the holidays. The success of that endeavor turned into today's Angel

Tree program.

Individuals can purchase a new, unwrapped toy and leave it at the Pennsauken

*continued on page 27*

## Pennsauken School District To Hold Bond Referendum

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The Pennsauken School District is asking residents to consider a bond referendum that will make significant improvements to every public school throughout the Township. The vote, to be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, will allocate almost \$36 million for various initiatives, while actually reducing school taxes for Pennsauken households.

"The goal of the referendum is to simply increase the education opportunities offered both academically and vocation-

ally to the students throughout Pennsauken Public Schools," says Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, superintendent, Pennsauken School District. "In addition, we want to increase the availability of athletic programs offered to our students; we also want to be competitive amongst all schools in South Jersey."

The proposed referendum addresses a variety of projects in every part of the District, including new security vestibules at all schools; capital improvement to ele-

mentary schools with new windows and doors; the establishment of all-day preschool; the demolition of an aging Longfellow Elementary and the erection of a comprehensive community park and playground in the school's old footprint; the addition of three new science labs and two additional classrooms at Phifer Middle School; the transformation of Roosevelt Elementary into a high-tech magnet high school, with the addition of a brand new

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## DECEMBER CALENDAR

### Browning Road Senior Club

The Browning Road Senior Club invites local seniors to come and meet on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. Meetings are held at Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 Route 130, Pennsauken at 1:00 p.m. Refreshments are served; there will be a short meeting followed by BINGO. For more information, call Pat at (609) 790-6760.

### Pro Wrestling

Aspire Pro Wrestling is holding a match on Sunday, Dec. 3, 3:00 p.m., at the P.Y.A.A. Field House, 3501 Elm Ave. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids. The wrestlers are also holding a food drive; attendees are asked to bring non-perishable boxed goods to donate. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/Aspire-ProWrestling/> or visit [aspireprowrestling@gmail.com](http://aspireprowrestling@gmail.com).

@gmail.com.

### Paint & Pints For A Purr-pose

The Paint & Pints for a Purr-pose fundraiser is being held on Sunday, Dec. 3, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., at Double Nickel Brewing Company, 1585, Rt. 73, Pennsauken. Enjoy amazing craft beers and paint a totally awesome, holiday-themed art design on a stylish wooden board, led by the awesome, Paint to You! Proceeds benefit Randall's Rescue. For more information, visit [visit RandallsRescue.com/paint](http://RandallsRescue.com/paint).

### Community Blood Drive

Imam Ali Masjid, in collaboration with the American Red Cross, will be hosting a community blood drive on Monday, Dec. 4, 3:00 to 8:00 p.m., at 5801 Magnolia Ave., Pennsauken. This event is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend and donate. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. Please call (856) 294-6544 or e-mail [fatima@imamalimasjid.com](mailto:fatima@imamalimasjid.com) to register a convenient donation time or for any questions.

on Substance Abuse (PASA) as they work to educate the community about ways to stop abuse of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. The organization's next meeting will be on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 7:00 p.m., at Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 North Route 130, Pennsauken, NJ 08110.

### Town Watch

Pennsauken's Town Watch hosts its next meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m., at the Pennsauken Police Department, Second Floor. Come learn how to make our community safer. For more information, call (856) 488-0080 ext. 2417.

## January Reorganization Public Meeting For Township Committee

The Pennsauken Township Committee will hold its annual reorganization meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 4 at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.

The agenda includes the swearing in of a new mayor, deputy mayor, and committee members, as well as the appointments to various positions. The new committee will then set meeting dates for 2018 for the Township Committee.

All future public meetings, excluding the Reorganization Meeting, are held at

the Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., at the corner of Route 130 and Merchantville Ave. at the times specified.

All Around Pennsauken posts these public meetings in each issue. Meeting dates can also be found at the Township web site, [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us). Changes to the meeting schedule will be advertised in the Courier-Post and Retrospect newspapers and will be posted online via the Township's web site, Facebook page and Twitter feed.

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# On The Job

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**Bayada Home Health Care** in Pennsauken is looking for certified home health aides and perspective applicants interested in becoming certified aides with Bayada. Please contact Marcia Stanford at (856) 663-1622 or [mstanford@bayada.com](mailto:mstanford@bayada.com).

**Edison Retail Solutions** in Pennsauken has full time positions available: customer service representatives, die cutter operator, mounting operator, planner commercial print kitting fulfillment, forklift operators and material handlers. Contact (630) 338-9655 or e-mail applications or resumes to [hr@edisonlitho.com](mailto:hr@edisonlitho.com).

**Simmons Foods** is a leading supplier of poultry, pet and ingredient products and is the largest supplier of store brand wet pet food in North America. Their Pennsauken location has a dozen open positions, from apprentice technician to warehouse forklift driver. For more information, visit [simmonsfoods.com/careers](http://simmonsfoods.com/careers).

**Inserts East**, a leading commercial printer located in Pennsauken, is seeking candidates for a junior printing role, which assists in a wide range of production activities. The press assistant will remove bundles from the press, count bundles placed on skids and perform tasks such as cleaning or changing press equipment for a new run. Day and night shifts are available. If interested please email [hr1@insertseast.com](mailto:hr1@insertseast.com) or pick up application at 7045 Central Highway, Pennsauken, NJ.

**SolidSurface Designs** in Pennsauken is currently looking for experienced countertop installers, helpers, stone fabricators and stone polishers. Please contact Joe at (856) 910-7720 or email at [joe@ssdtops.com](mailto:joe@ssdtops.com).

**ACCU Staffing Services** in Pennsauken is now hiring Warehouse/Production Workers in the Camden County area. Long-term positions with room for growth available! For more information, call (856) 662-2727, e-mail [Pennsauken@accustaffing.com](mailto:Pennsauken@accustaffing.com) or visit 6000 Rte. 38 East Pennsauken, NJ 08109 to apply on-the-spot!

**Primerica** in Pennsauken is offering a unique entrepreneurial opportunity to START PART-TIME. Get paid for helping others and begin building a business in the financial services industry! For more information, call (856) 910-1100 or visit [www.primerica.com/ellis](http://www.primerica.com/ellis).

**Barry Callebaut** is the world's leading supplier of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products. Its Pennsauken location has multiple positions in food manufacturing, including machine operators, material handlers, food sanitation helpers and maintenance mechanics. To apply for a position, please visit the site at 1500 Suckle Hwy, Pennsauken NJ weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Pepsi Cola and Canada Dry** in Pennsauken is hiring merchandisers for Pepsi and CDL-A drivers for Canada Dry. To apply, please fax your resume to (856)661-4684, email it to [HRPennsauken@hongrp.com](mailto:HRPennsauken@hongrp.com), or stop by the following location to drop one off or complete an application: 8191 N Crescent Blvd, Pennsauken, NJ 08110.

**Dietz & Watson**, the greatest place to work in Philadelphia, is hiring workers in all areas of our warehouse! If you're looking for a great place to work with friendly people and awesome benefits. Please visit our careers website at <http://dietzandwatson.com/about/careers/> to complete an application.

**New York Life** in Mount Laurel is looking to fill two positions. College juniors or seniors can join our fall/spring eight-week internship program; they are also hiring agents/financial advisors. No experience required, but you must have a winning attitude and a strong customer service focus. Contact Christina today at (856) 787-4758 or e-mail your resume to: [cblackburn01@ft.newyorklife.com](mailto:cblackburn01@ft.newyorklife.com).

For more information, e-mail [edev@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:edev@twp.pennsauken.nj.us)

## MAYOR'S RECORDED Another Year Comes To A Close In Pennsauken



By Betsy McBride,  
Mayor of  
Pennsauken  
Township

How did it get to be December? It seems only yesterday that we were all preparing to enter a year that would mark the 125th anniversary of Pennsauken, filled with a variety of special celebrations.

Pennsauken had birthday parties, ribbon cuttings, and multiple community events. We maintained longstanding traditions like our Holiday Parade, brought back favorites like the Township fireworks, and established new ones, like the Harvest Festival. We honored Pennsauken women of distinction, swore in new police officers, and celebrated our

diversity. We also rallied together to support our neighbors – both here and in hurricane ravaged Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, showing our understanding that families who struggle need support and love. We even saw a groundbreaking at the Pennsauken Mart site after 15 years of vacancy; and now, Haddon Point will bring high-end apartments to our town... talk about a great 125th birthday present!

During this year of 2017, we worked to listen to and serve you, through one-on-one meetings, forums on social media, and events to bring us together as community. You let us know about issues in your part of town so we could help find you answers; you shared your concerns and your ideas to help make Pennsauken an even better place to live, work, and play; and you came together

with your family and neighbors to celebrate all the things that make this Township unique and special.

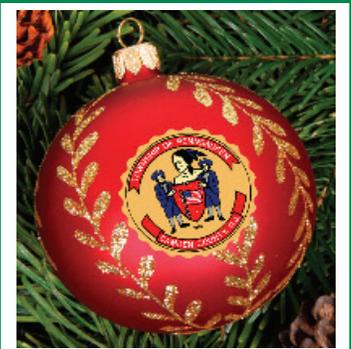
So as this year comes to a close, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your citizenship. Because of your support and involvement, we have been able to do so many things to keep Pennsauken moving forward. Working together, we have been able to create a welcoming environment for new businesses, address vacant properties, clean up parks, and start creating new ones like the park along the river. Pennsauken is a special place and is getting better each year.

I would like to thank everyone for supporting me as your mayor in 2017. I thank my colleagues on Township Committee for their support, counsel, and commitment to our community.

Together, we are sincerely dedicated to the wellbeing and growth of our Township.

You, our neighbors, deserve our very best – to keep taxes stable, to improve municipal services, to offer events to celebrate our town, and to look at new opportunities to serve you better each year.

I have to say December is not my favorite month. I actually get sad about what I see as a misplaced need to buy more, decorate better, and celebrate harder. I truly wish we could simplify and get back to the basic reason for the season; to love our neighbors, to help those in need, to be watchful and waiting, and to celebrate our ever-present divine Creator in the ways of our individual faiths. May the year of 2018 be a wonderful new year for you, yours, and for all of us. Peace and goodwill to all.



*This holiday season,  
may you be  
blessed with  
Laughter,  
Peace,  
Love  
and Joy!*

### BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



#### Merchantville – Charming 1920's Colonial

This home has been meticulously restored. Modern kitchen with granite counter tops. There are stained glass doors to the pantry. The family room has a real wood planked ceiling and maple flooring with 2 french doors leading to the sun room. The dining room has maple flooring with tile inset. The yard is nicely landscaped with flower beds, trees, and shrubs. There is a 2 car detached garage. The heating system, electrical system, lighting, flooring, and venetian plaster paint are among the upgrades. \$309,900



#### Cinnaminson – One Floor Living At its Best!

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#### Pennsauken – Move-In Condition

Beautiful house located in the Delaware Gardens section. Close to all major bridges. This house has 3 bedrooms 2 1/2 bathrooms with hardwood floors throughout and a beautiful fireplace to use during the holidays and winter months. Owner will include living room and dining room furniture sets. Come check out this great find!! \$215,000



#### East Greebwich Twp – Investor's Delight!

This home is waiting for a little TLC. This Rancher features 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms & nice size eat in kitchen. Gas Heat, Central Air, 100 X 200 Lot. \$134,900



#### Pennsauken – Great Potential!

This Ranch home has great potential! 3 bedrooms and a full bath on the main floor. Eat in kitchen, spacious living room with a large picture window for warm sunlight. The home offers hard wood floor throughout and plenty of closet space and a full basement. This home is being so as is. \$99,900



#### Lawnside – Five Bedrooms!

Very Spacious Five Bedroom, Three Bath home in Lawnside! Home features on the main floor living room, dining room with sliders leading out to the large deck, open spacious kitchen, full hall bath, main bedroom with bath and lots of closet space and two additional bedrooms. Down stairs there is a very large family room with gas fireplace, bathroom with shower, two additional bedrooms/office, utility room with washer and dryer lots of ceiling fans throughout. Large back yard, wrap around driveway. \$177,500.



#### Pennsauken – Multi Family

Fantastic Opportunity to own your home and collect rent to help pay the mortgage! The first floor apartment has 2 bedrooms, a living room & dining room with hardwood flooring, a kitchen and 1 full bathroom. You also have access to the large basement with a washer/dryer which is 1 year old. There is a room that is finished which can be an office in the basement. The second floor has an eat in kitchen, 2 bedrooms with carpet, 1 full bath, and a huge finished attic which can be used as a family/living room. \$155,000



#### Pennsauken – Large Corner Lot

This home nestled in the Delair section has endless potential with 3-5 bedrooms, 2 basements one is finished as a family room with a Bar. There is also a living room, Dining Room, Full eat in Kitchen. This home has 2 gas meters and 2 gas bills as it is was once a duplex. The current ZONING is Residential SINGLE Family and one would need to apply with the ZONING department to change the current use. The ball field, Basket ball court, walking path, and play ground are steps away from the side door. \$119,900



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## WAGSWORLD A Christmas Miracle From Years Past

By Bob Wagner, AAP Columnist

This month's column is one of my favorites from years past. For newer readers, I have identified the stores mentioned by also including the occupants currently at that location.

It must have been 1959 or 1960. The Christmas holidays were rapidly approaching. School was already closed. The tree was in a bucket out back, the lights were up on the front porch and boxes of decorations were down from the attic.

In a manner not uncommon to small boys, I was eagerly awaiting Christmas Day, and totally unprepared. With 24 hours until that magical day, I had exactly one gift hidden away, and no prospects of buying any more.

I awoke early that Christmas Eve, to find a winter wonderland. Parents and shopkeepers everywhere must have been in a panic. I was saved!

I took out the family snow shovel, a heavy push type, and raced to my nearest neighbor. Bundled up and heavily protected in my woolen coat and snap-front galoshes, I worked feverishly. Receiving my first pay of the day, I trudged the four blocks up Westfield to Marazzo's 5&10, a long standing Westfield Ave. landmark, now the location of Cricket Wireless, Domino's Pizza, Levelz Barbershop, Metro PCS and Wild Wings. I bought a lovely light aluminum snow shovel, and I was the first customer of the day. Joe Marazzo, perhaps sensing my plight, gave me the shovel at a discount. Then he paid me handsomely for cleaning his own sidewalk outside the store.

I worked like a man possessed. I shoveled houses, stores, cars stuck on the street. I used that new shovel like a machine. The Cozy Corner Luncheonette, located at the corners of Westfield and Lexington, served a hot dog, a Coke, and chips for 29 cents, the perfect lunch for a weary snow shoveler. By three in the afternoon, I was rich.

Swaggering back on "The Avenue," which is the term we always used for Westfield, I paused at Thor's Rexall

Drug Store, where Troy's Deli currently resides. They had it all. Evening in Paris in that magnificent, gaudy bottle for Grandmom, El Productos for Pop Lee, a new Big Ben alarm clock for Mom, and a wide assortment of baubles and bangles for my kid sisters rounded out my holiday spending spree.

I added a few Christmas cards to my bag of goodies, and headed home, satisfied with a day's work well done.

As I rounded the corner heading to the house, all smug and weighted down with my bags of presents, I caught sight of my dad. Home early from work for Christmas, Dad was out front shoveling our steps. And the final piece of my Christmas shopping puzzle fell into place. I snuck into the house from the back, scooted down to the basement and cleaned off that shiny new snow shovel. With a big red bow and ribbon, it was the perfect gift for Dad. It was a lot lighter than that old monster we had, and would be easier on his back after a hard day at work. Or maybe on mine, should I ever remember to do our own steps before rushing out to make a buck.

Christmas morning dawned, as it

always did to us children back then, bright, sparkling with lights and the smell of pine.

The presents were devoured, wrapping paper was everywhere; Mom and Dad were sitting on the floor, looking up at our Nativity scene. I remember thinking that the real miracle of Christmas might just be bailing out a youngster at the last possible minute, and teaching a lesson at the same time.

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### PENNSAUKEN DECEMBER PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Township Committee**  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday,  
December 6 and 20

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**  
7:00 p.m. Wednesday,  
December 6 and 20

**Planning Board**  
6:30 p.m. Tuesday,  
December 5 and 19

Meetings are open to the public  
and are held at the  
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## Bone Marrow Donor Match Drive Held At PHS On December 14

A donor match drive to help battle life-threatening blood cancers and other diseases will be held on Thursday, Dec. 14, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd.

For thousands with blood cancers like leukemia or other diseases, like sickle cell anemia, a bone marrow transplant is their only hope for life. If individuals have a diverse ancestry, patients especially need them, as these donors are most likely to match someone who

shares their heritage.

Match donors are identified through a simple cheek swab procedure. Statistics indicate that a majority of individuals suffering from blood cancer – 70 percent – do not have a blood or bone marrow match with a family member and therefore require a non-family member to donate. And according to the National Bone Marrow Program, there are 14,000 patients per year whose only hope for a cure is a transplant from someone outside their family.

“We encourage our residents to take the time to be considered as a donor,” says Township Committeeman Rick Taylor. “The process is simple; and while

there’s no obligation to be a donor, doing so can be life saving.”

Anyone between the ages of 18 to 44 can join the registry. If an individual is called as a potential match for a patient in need, making a commitment as a donor means that this person is willing to take up to 20-30 hours, spread over four to six weeks, to attend an information session, attend appointments, and make a bone marrow donation.

If an individual matches a patient in need, there are two ways to donate. The patient’s doctor chooses the donation method that is best for the patient. Peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) donation is a non-surgical, outpatient procedure called

apheresis. The donor receives a drug for five days prior to donation that increases the number of cells in the bloodstream. The cells are then collected during donation. The donor may experience head or muscle aches that disappear shortly after donation, and are typically back to their normal routine in one to two days. Marrow donation is a surgical, outpatient procedure that takes place in a hospital operating room. While the donor is under anesthesia, doctors collect marrow

from the back of their pelvic bone. After donation, donors may feel soreness in the lower back. Donors are typically back to their normal routine in two to seven days.

The event is sponsored through Be The Match,® an organization operated by the National Marrow Donor Program® that helps patients find their life-saving donors and provide support throughout the transplant process. For more information, visit BeTheMatch.org.

## PMAC Holiday Happy Hour Benefits Angel Tree Program



The Pennsauken-Merchantville Area Chamber of Commerce (P.M.A.C.) is hosting a holiday happy hour to help “kick-off” this year’s donations for Pennsauken Township’s Angel Tree program, which collects new, unwrapped toys for families in need.

The happy hour will be held on Thursday, Dec. 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Marco’s at Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd. The event features a complimentary buffet, drink specials, holiday music, and pictures with Santa. All attendees are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Angel Tree program. To R.S.V.P. for the event, e-mail pmac1team@gmail.com or call (856) 438-0833.

### Congratulations To New PMAC Officers

At November’s P.M.A.C. networking luncheon, the organization’s executive board officers were announced. Congratulations to Matthew Gaskell, chairman; John Perozzi, vice chairman; Janet Stevens, treasurer; and Le Ann Frost, secretary. The executive board, along with the steering committee, help chart the direction of the organization throughout the year.

### Changes In Fees For Networking Luncheons In 2018

Beginning next year, the cost of attendance to P.M.A.C.’s monthly networking luncheon will go up slightly. Admission will be \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members.

The first networking luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the Pennsauken Country Club. For more information, e-mail pmac1team@gmail.com or call (856) 438-0833.

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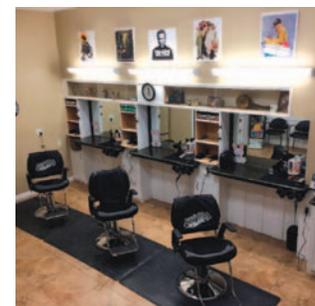
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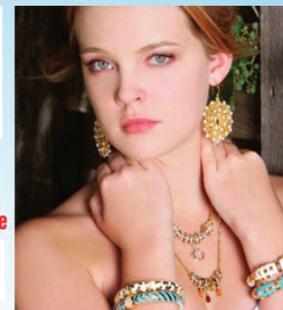
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## Pennsauken Fire Department To Escort Santa Through Neighborhoods

Pennsauken's Fire Department will once again be escorting Santa Claus through certain neighborhoods during the holidays. Times are estimated depending on weather and emergency responses.

- Sunday, Dec. 2 (daytime): Meadowbrook, Fallon Drive to Park Ave., Union to Cooper avenues; Pennbrook, Grant Ave. to Patterson Lane, Pettit Rd. to Union Ave.
- Tuesday, Dec. 5 (evening): Jordantown, Cooper Ave. to Haddonfield Rd., Park to Maple avenues; Homestead, Willow to Chapel avenues, Victoria to Wisteria avenues; Fairview Estates, Holmcrest to Golfview avenues, Cynwyd Ave. to Golfview Court
- Saturday, Dec. 9 (daytime): Collins Tract, Park to Madison avenues,

Horner to Denby avenues; Pennwood, Leslie Ave. to 46th St., Rt. 130 to Chestnut Ave.; East Pennsauken, Morton to Osler avenues, Haddonfield Rd. to Maryland Ave.; Iron Rock, Maple to Bryn Mawr avenues, New York to Maryland avenues

- Tuesday, Dec. 12 (evening): Highland, Poplar Ave. to Marlton Pike, Rt. 130 to Browning Rd.; Admiral Park, Myrtle to Earle avenues, Rosemont Ave. to Rt. 130; Pennsauken Estates, Chestnut to Park avenues, Cove Rd. to Bethel Ave.
- Sunday, Dec. 17 (daytime): Hillcrest, Norwood to Hillcrest avenues, Rt. 130 to River Rd.; North Merchantville/Baldwin's Run, Hollinshed Ave. to 36th St., Rt. 130 to Westfield Ave.; Delaware Gardens, Hillcrest Ave. to 36th St., Westfield to Bannard avenues



An annual tradition, Santa Claus will be escorted through various local neighborhoods by the Pennsauken Township Fire Department.

- Tuesday, Dec. 19 (evening): Chadwyck I, II, III, Powell Ave. to Hadley Drive, Greenbriar Rd. to Weymouth Drive; Bloomfield Park, Woodbine to Beacon avenues, Browning Rd. to Magnolia Ave.
  - Friday, Dec. 22 (evening): Delair and Bridgeview, John Tipton Blvd. to Derousse Ave., Union to Adams avenues; Morrisville, Pleasant to Forrest avenues, Derousse Ave. to Rt. 90
- Please call (856) 665-0774 for more information.

## Great Places To Grab Sweets And Desserts

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Whether you're headed to Pennsylvania and some homemade pumpkin pie, or have visions of sugarplums dancing in your head, you can't have the holidays without the sweets. There are some local establishments that can provide some serious help in the dessert department.

At the iconic Penn Queen Diner, located at 7349 North Crescent Blvd., all baking is done right there on the premises. Their strawberry shortcake is a must try; and their best seller is the strawberry chocolate cheese cake. The cannoli are pretty good too. For more info or to place an order, give a call at (856) 662-1928.

Everyone's favorite local "cookie lady," Ernestine Williams, owner of Mama's Homemade Cookie Lounge on 2591 Haddonfield Rd. in Pennsauken, has plenty of great offerings for the holidays. Her "melt-in-your-mouth," nine-inch, sweet potato pies, regularly \$15, are just \$12 in December; pizzelles in a variety of flavors will also be sold in packs of 12 for just \$6. In addition, she and her staff are making a large selection of cookies for the holidays, including chocolate crinkles, peanut butter thumbprints, eggnog cookies, rum balls and more. Williams offers special discounts for corporate orders and can ship out homemade cookie baskets. They even do cookie catering, where they customize cookies and beverages to your event. For more info, call (856) 317-0700.

The Pennsauken-based food truck Dan's Waffles is selling candied waffles for the holidays. Sold as an assortment, you'll receive dulce de leche, white chocolate, granola and Nutella, milk chocolate, and chocolate chip, price yet to be determined at time of printing. You can also order bags of a half dozen original Belgian sugar waffles for only \$17. They will also be selling their famous triple coconut cream pies, featured on Food Network's "The Best Thing I Ever Ate," for \$37 each. To place your order, call (856) 566-6650 or contact them through Facebook Messenger at "Dan's Waffles" or "Ritz Seafood & Dan's Waffles Food Truck."

More than two billion candy canes are produced during the Christmas season; some of the best, homemade candy canes are found at the legendary Aunt Charlotte's, located at 5 West Maple Ave. in Merchantville. Shopping at Aunt Charlotte's during the holidays is a tried and true local tradition, as the store is decked with a lot more than boughs of holly. Customer favorites include chocolate covered pretzels, which fly off the shelves this time of year; non pareils, in red and green for the Christmas season; caramel and cashew crabs, made of caramel with cashews or peanuts; and sandwich mints, an Aunt Charlotte's exclusive. If someone on your list has a sweet tooth, this is the place to go. Call (856) 662-0058 for more information or visit AuntCharlottesCandy.com.

## Channel 19 To Feature Holiday Programming

Channel 19 Pennsauken Television will once again be offering special programming for the holidays.

"It's a great time of year to provide some seasonal programming for Channel 19," explains Ryan Wachter, township director of Pennsauken Television. "The movies we plan on showing range from holiday classics to true guilty pleasures."

Featured movies include the cartoon, "Santa and the Three Bears," 1935's "Scrooge," and the classic B-Movie disaster, "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians." Each film is in the public domain.

Channel 19's holiday programming will begin on Saturday, Dec. 23 and run through Christmas, Dec. 25. The first movie will start each night at 7:00 p.m.

For a full listing of programming, visit Pennsauken Television on Facebook.

## O' Christmas Tree...

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

A lot of family traditions include getting a live Christmas tree. And you can definitely find them right here in town.

This time of year, a lot of brick and mortar establishments branch out to sell Christmas trees. Such businesses include Harris Bouquet, 7616 Maple Ave., (856) 662-6553; Penn Florist, 5451 Route 38, (856) 662-0088; A&J Landscape Supply and Garden Center, 2955 Haddonfield Rd., (856) 356-2083; and even the Mower

## Santa Visits Burrough-Dover House During Nighttime Holiday Event

A new holiday tradition in our Township began a couple of years ago when historic Burrough-Dover House opened its doors on an evening in December to welcome Santa and the community for a beautiful evening of cheer. Again this year, on Friday evening, Dec. 8, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., Santa will sit before the hearth at Burrough-Dover House to welcome the young ones and their families for a Yuletide chat and a photo opportunity that will be a real Pennsauken keepsake! The historic home will be decked out with greens and tinsel and holiday regalia, while a tree adorned with ornaments stands in the parlor as if waiting for the good children of the 19th Century Dover family to rise on Christmas morning!

Music of the season and sweet treats offered by our volunteer docents will warm the evening, as will the glow of the luminaria guiding the visitors from the parking lot to the door of the historic parlor. However, the main attraction will be the man in the red suit waiting by the fireside to meet all who visit on this spe-

cial evening!

Burrough-Dover House, the historic home of the Burrough family from colonial times and the founding of the nation, and of the Dover family from the 19th Century until the 1960s, has been the home of the Pennsauken Historical Society since its founding in 1964. Admission for this special holiday event is free and there is plenty of free parking. Bring your good-listed kids and even those who have not yet made that list, bring your camera, and bring your holiday season cheer for a memory to keep! There should still be plenty of time to make prints for your holiday cards!

Burrough-Dover House is located at 9201 Burrough-Dover Lane, right off Haddonfield Rd. near the Wyndam Rd. traffic light.

Visit the Griffith Morgan House or Pennsauken Historical Society pages or the group "Pennsauken History Forum" on Facebook for more details or directions or call (856) 662-3002 and leave a message or e-mail to pennsaukenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

## It's Time To Play "Pennsaukenopoly!"

In conjunction with the town's 125th anniversary, Pennsauken has created "Pennsaukenopoly," a special keepsake board game. The games are finished and have arrived just in time for the holidays!

"Visit" some of the great places and businesses in Pennsauken and enjoy a fun, competitive game for the whole

family.

Games are just \$30 and all proceeds from the sale of "Pennsaukenopoly" will go to support local charitable initiatives.

For more information, or to purchase a game, call (856) 665-1000 x127 or e-mail aap@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

## WinterFest Held At Cooper River Park

Back by popular demand, WinterFest Ice Skating, sponsored by the Camden County Board of Freeholders, has returned to Cooper River Park in Pennsauken for three months of fun. The park is transformed into a winter wonderland, creating an experience the en-

tire family can enjoy.

WinterFest features an ice skating rink, heated tents, food and drink vendors, holiday entertainment, and more. The rink is open now through Valentine's Day, Feb. 14.

For more information, visit SkateWinterFest.com.



WinterFest Ice Skating at Cooper River Park has returned for another season of fun.



## Bringing My Sleigh Back To Pennsauken... And Not A Moment Too Soon

By Jolly Old Saint Nicholas,  
AKA Santa Claus

Ho! Ho! Ho! It's that most wonderful time of the year, where children of all ages have visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads. Families all over are getting ready for my arrival, trimming the tree, hanging stockings with care, and baking cookies for that magical night of the year. My elves and I are working at top speed, prepping the sleigh, getting the reindeer ready to fly, and making that famous list of mine everyone keeps talking about. And yes, I do check it twice.

Mrs. Claus and I were thrilled to be part of Pennsauken's annual holiday parade again this year. It's always nice to see so many of you line the streets of Westfield Ave. to help "officially" kick-off this season of giving. We were also happy to help flip the switch for your town's tree lighting; and we always have a great time at your annual "Breakfast with Santa." Before I leave, I always grab a couple of pieces of left-over bacon for the reindeer as a treat.

You have no idea how much they love bacon!

This is a lot of people's favorite time of year, myself especially. And for many, it couldn't have come fast enough. Not for the presents, or the lights, or the specials on TV. It's the hope and joy that come from the holidays and Christmas that a lot of people are yearning for.

This year has been challenging. There have been some very troubling events and a lot of people are in need. That's why I'm glad there's so many people in Pennsauken who are "Santa's helpers," not just during the holidays, but all year round. This is a very giving and generous community; folks do step up in times of tragedy and loss.

But that isn't to say there hasn't been a lot of pouting and crying happening. It's all over. If there weren't 24 days in December for people to show their truer, kinder, more gentler selves, we'd run out of coal for folks' stockings. And I'll be honest, some of the stuff I've seen on social media is going to put a lot of kids, both big and small, straight on the naughty list. It almost

makes me wish I hadn't installed Wi-Fi in the sleigh.

But we really need to focus on being good little boys and girls, regardless of how old we really are. Forget for a moment that I see you when you're sleeping and I know when you're awake. You shouldn't need Christmas or any other holiday for an excuse to be more kind; to give of yourself; to go out of your way to help a family who may be struggling or an elderly neighbor. There's a reason they call this time of the year "the season of giving," but you shouldn't wait until December to give."

Instead of "Have you been good this year?" the real question that needs to be answered is "Can you keep this spirit of giving in your heart all year round?"

Many are on their best behavior because they know I'm coming to visit them soon. But what if each and every person acted like that not just during December, but all year round? That would make Mrs. Claus and I very happy. You and your loved ones might just be happier too. It can also create a positive outlook and approach to 2018. And that's a real special gift.

So get ready Pennsauken. I'm coming to town. And be sure to leave me some cookies and milk. I LOVE cook-

ies and milk!

MERRY CHRISTMAS! I'll see you soon.

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## Winter Wonderland For Pennsauken Unlikely

By William Finnegan,  
Special Contributor to AAP

The signs of winter are here: Christmas décor is popping up, it is really cold outside, and the good folks of Penn-

sauken are starting to talk about snow. This year, the conversations generally start with, "It's been so warm, winter will be..." Let's see if we can finish that thought.

First, a few disclaimers. I am a science teacher at Pennsauken High School who knows very little about the weather, although that doesn't stop the TV announcers from earning money. I'm just

an amateur social media weather enthusiast. In other words, I just have fun with it. I love snow! Apologies to all those wannabe Florida residents who dislike snowmen. There will be some technical "sciency" stuff because I like to teach. However, I wasn't allowed the entire paper, so I'll keep it short here and you can go to AllAroundPennsauken.com for my detailed explanation, with maybe an update.

A winter outlook would not be complete without considering La Niña, northern blocking, polar jet stream, Siberian snow, October/November temperatures, arctic ice, polar vortex, and Atlantic temperatures. As of now, not one of these factors is screaming louder than the others. We're likely looking at a weak La Niña (cool Pacific equals a cold/snowy East Coast); Siberian and arctic ice are about normal or less (so-so winter); northern blocking and the polar vortex may arrive (good news); and a warm fall and warm Atlantic (statistically bad for us). Unless a particular factor ends up having a stronger influence, I believe Pennsauken will mostly be stuck in the middle of a cold and snowy north and a warm and wet south. Fluctuations in either direction will dictate our weather and mixed precipitation

may be the common theme. In general, we will have a fairly boring (normal) winter with equal chance of cold/warm and snow/rain. On average, we get about 22 inches of snow. My hypothesis (guess) is that we will have about that, maybe less. Signs also seem to point toward more small snow events than a few big ones. But again... nothing right now is pointing toward anything but a coin toss. After Dec. 1, we may know more. Keep in mind, meteorological winter is Dec. 1 to March 1, but actual winter is Dec. 22 through March 22.

Here are some predictions: December will be about average in temperature with rain the dominating precipitation. Cold and snow could come at the end. January is looking to be the coldest month overall with the best chances of snow. February will warm up again and March could be about normal with swings in either direction. However, if you believe the Farmer's Almanac, which is about as accurate as a scientist and a psychic flipping coins over coffee at Penn Queen, then we could see snow Jan. 23-30, Feb. 4-7 and 16-19, and March 1-3 and 20-23.

For a more detailed, "sciency" version of this article, visit AllAroundPennsauken.com.

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## Pennsauken Police Warn Residents Of Check Scams

Pennsauken Police are alerting residents to several different scams going around our community involving bad checks.

The perpetrators of the scam will instruct the victim to deposit a check in the victim's bank account and then withdrawal funds from the account. The funds are then sent to a listed address or electronically transferred. The victim later finds out that the check was fake and did not clear. All of these scams have the following common elements:



- A check is sent to a victim
- The victim is instructed to deposit the check into their bank account
- The victim is then instructed to withdraw funds before the check clears
- The victim is supposed to keep a certain portion of the funds for themselves and the remainder is to be sent to one or more other places

If you encounter a similar situation or something you believe may be suspicious, please contact the police before you make any financial transactions. The Pennsauken Police Department can be contacted at (856) 488-0080.



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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS Troop 118 Announces Pennsauken's Schpok As Newest Eagle Scout

By Mary Anne McFarland

James Schpok, a senior at Pennsauken High School, has become Boy Scout Troop 118's newest Eagle Scout. His Eagle Court of Honor was held on November 11, 2017.

James joined the scouting program as a Cub Scout in Pack 116's second grade Wolf Den. He stayed with the Pack from third through fifth grade and graduated into Troop 118 at the end of his fifth

grade year. As a member of Troop 118, he earned the 21 Merit Badges required to achieve Eagle. He has held leadership jobs within the Troop, including patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, and Troop Guide. James attended a week of national youth leadership training to help him acquire the skills he needed as senior patrol leader, the youth leader of the Troop. While adult leaders are there to offer as-

sistance and advice, it is the senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, and patrol leaders who run the Troop.

Besides the 21 Merit Badges, rank advancement, and leadership jobs, an Eagle candidate must organize and lead a service project. James' project took place at the Merchantville Community Center and was made up of multiple parts. The first part was making eight cement slabs for the exterior trash cans situated around the perimeter of the Community Center property. The project included making the forms and pouring cement. Once cured, the trashcans were placed on their new slabs. The second part was cleaning out and replanting the shrubs and replacing mulch on the center driveway partition at the front of the Community Center. The third was to scrape years of old paint off the metal swing sets and repaint them. Mayor Brennan of Merchantville thanked James for the job well done and com-



Pennsauken High School senior James Schpok, seen here with his parents, David and Linda, is Troop 118's newest Eagle Scout.

mented that the Borough is grateful for such projects to help improve Merchantville.

Once the project is finished and other requirements are completed, the Eagle candidate must be reviewed by a district board of review that looks over his project, asks questions, and determines his worthiness to earn the Eagle rank. On average, only five out of every 100 youth involved in Scouting ever are able to achieve Eagle. Troop 118 is proud of James for staying with the program and working towards earning Eagle Scout.

## Pennsauken Police's Nettleton Promoted To Captain

John Nettleton of the Pennsauken Police Department has been promoted to the rank of captain, effective Dec. 1.

Nettleton has been on the force in Pennsauken since July 1, 1996. Last May, he was a recipient of the Richard Dawson Award for Meritorious Service, which annually honors officers



Nettleton

that demonstrate exemplary performance of duty. In 2016, he received the Chief's Award for Leadership for his work with Team Pennsauken, riding his bicycle from Galloway Township to Washington, D.C. during the Police Unity Tour, in remembrance of fallen Pennsauken Township police officers.

Congratulations to Captain Nettleton, thank you for your service to the Pennsauken community.

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## SENIORCORNER

By Sonny DiSabato,  
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors.

Winter is almost here. Are you ready for the cold, snowy weather that comes with it? If you haven't already, there are some simple steps you can take to be ready for when Old Man Winter arrives:

- Check your heater to make sure that it's running well; also, buy inexpensive heater filters and replace them each month
- Have a three-day supply of non-perishable food for each person in the house
- In case of a power outage, have candles, matches, flashlights, and fresh batteries handy
- Have salt and fertilizer to use on steps

## Tips For Seniors To Prepare For Winter Weather

and walkways to melt icy patches

- Make sure that your cell phone is charged at 100 percent prior to any forecast of winter weather; also, be sure to stay in touch with family and friends so that they know you're okay

If you drive:

- Check your car's battery to make sure that it's working properly
- Have plenty of gas in the tank
- Keep salt and sand in the trunk in the case of spinning tires

### Snow Removal Program For Seniors

Also, the Camden County Freeholder Board offers assistance to senior citizens and disabled residents who are unable to remove significant amounts of snow accumulation from their properties.

The Snow Removal Program is available to help seniors and disabled individuals get out of their homes for necessities such as prescriptions or medical appointments. The program uses Camden County Correctional Facility inmates who are carefully screened, non-violent offenders who are guarded at all times on the job site by corrections officers. The Senior Snow Removal Program is an extension of the facility's Road Crew Program.

The Snow Removal Program will go into effect only after four inches of snow have fallen on the ground in our area.

Calls for snow removal will not be taken until after it has stopped snowing. At that time, at-risk elderly and disabled residents can contact the Camden County Division of Emergency Management at (856) 783-4808 ext. 5060.

Work crews will be dispatched only after it has stopped snowing. The work crews will remove snow only during daylight hours from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Crews will respond to calls in the order they are received and will service as many residents as possible each day. There are no guaranteed times when the crews will arrive at a residence.

Senior and disabled residents must call after each substantial snowfall to request this service.

Wishing you good health and happiness. However you celebrate, whether it's Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, or something else entirely, have a great holiday season. Please say a prayer for our men and women in the Armed Services. May they come home safe and soon.

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All Around  
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Wishing all our  
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a Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year!

## Tax Help Available At Pennsauken Library In February

The Pennsauken Free Public Library is once again hosting AARP Tax Help sessions. This free service begins on Thursday, Feb. 1, in the Library's Community Room and will be offered Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., through April 12.

Residents taking advantage of this service need to bring last year's completed return with them. In addition, residents will need to bring a photo ID, their social security card, and the social security information of any dependents.

Beginning Jan. 2, residents can set up an appointment by calling (856) 477-3342 and leaving your name, phone number, and best time to be contacted. Someone will call back to set up an appointment; these individuals are not tax preparers and cannot answer tax questions. Please note that you CANNOT call the Library to schedule a time to have your taxes done. If you do not set up an appointment via phone, tax preparation is done on a first come, first served basis, with preference given to seniors.

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## GRAYMATTERS

### Embracing The Special Magic That December Brings

By Judith Kristen, AAP Columnist

I have loved the month of December ever since I was a child. And, although it has nothing to do with Betsy Wetsy dolls and a really cool cowgirl outfit for me these days, the month still manages to cover me with a certain magic and joy that fits me like a glove.

Certainly there are some people who feel harried during the holiday season. But keep in mind that the operative word here is "holiday!" Holidays are meant to be fun both in anticipation of them as well as while they're happening. So, take it all in and have some fun!

And the weather? While recent Decembers have been somewhat mild, they can be cool, cold, and downright freezing; snow-filled, beautifully snow-sprinkled, or snow-drifted. You might as well take it all in and enjoy it! The weather's gonna' be there anyway!

Then there are other lovely visuals: neighborhood houses are sparkling with lights, as are our local shops, malls, and restaurants. Snowmen adorn lawns, Mistletoe awaits the unexpected, Christmas trees are for sale; wreaths are on doors; and the smell of Christmas cookies coming from my kitchen window beckons neighbors in for a fresh batch right out of the oven. So come on over!

And maybe most of all, allow yourself to enjoy the splendor of seeing all of this

holiday magic through a child's eyes. Don't let this beautiful month pass you by. Make a batch of your own cookies or help someone else make a few dozen to share with friends and neighbors. Wish people a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah, Blessed Ramadan, Happy Holidays, or even a simple Happy December could be just what the doctor ordered to make someone's entire day a happy one. Donate to a local charity, buy and then deliver some canned goods to a local soup kitchen, and please call some old friends, let the people you know and love that you appreciate them all year round.

In truth, belong to the magic through a child's eyes. There is only everything to gain by doing so.

Don't wait for something wonderful to happen, BE the wonderful something that happens.

Make it a December to remember before it so easily slips on by.

As one of my favorite authors, Dr. Seuss, once said: "How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June. My goodness, how the time has flown. How did it get so late so soon?"

Peace and love to you and yours. And a very happy, happy December.

Love,  
~Judy

## Pennsauken Township Recognizes Veterans With Online Wall Of Honor

Located on Pennsauken Township's web site, Pennsauken's online Wall of Honor recognizes Township residents, past or present, living or deceased, that proudly served in our nation's armed forces.

"This is just a small way to thank the many veterans from our community that have served our country," explains Township Committeeman Bill Orth.

This is not a complete list and will be periodically updated. If individuals know of a past or present resident, living or dead, who has served in the military that is currently not included on the Wall

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HONORING OUR VETERANS



Pennsauken's online Wall of Honor recognizes Township residents, past or present, living or deceased, that proudly served in our nation's armed forces.

of Honor, they can submit the name via an easy-to-use online form.

To view the list or to submit a name, visit [www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-wall-honor](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-wall-honor).

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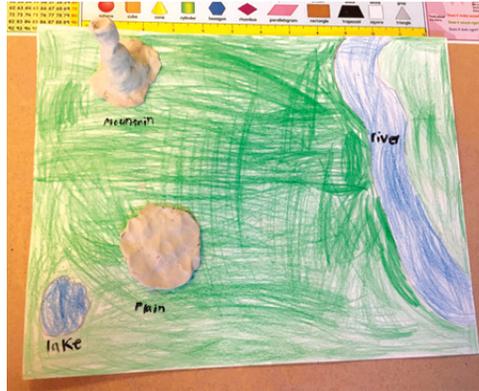
## Learning Landforms At Longfellow

By Shera Goldstein and Meghan Hook

First grade at Longfellow School has been busy at work learning all about landforms. We have been working on an exciting project where students have built a model of the landforms that they have learned about, using paper, crayons, and clay. The students are very excited to get creative and build something that represents their learning.

In first grade, it is important to make learning engaging and multisensory. In addition to the hands-on projects that our students have been engaging in while they learn about landforms, our first grade students have also been hard

at work learning fun ways to play with sounds. Our students have learned hand motions to accompany the vowel sounds so that they have clues when they are sounding out words. Students have engaged in word play when they practice rhyming and read fun rhyming texts. Longfellow first graders are working hard and are well on their way to becoming lifelong learners!



First grade students at Longfellow have built models based on their lessons on landforms.

## Fine Honors Students Of The Month



Fine students are recognized for being September and October's students of the month. These students are commended for following directions, listening carefully, working neatly, and completing assignments on time. We are proud of our students of the month!



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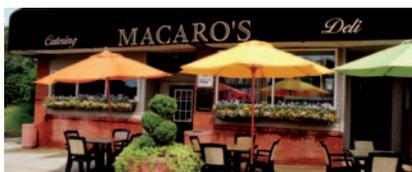
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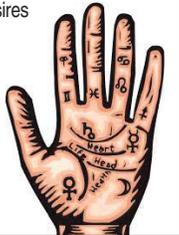
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## Phifer Students Compete In Lockheed Martin Robotics Competition

By Thomas Honeyman, Principal,  
Phifer Middle School

Fourteen Phifer Middle School students were selected to participate in the 12th annual Lockheed Martin robotics tutorial and competition: Nicholas Wolff, Elissa Gallo, Nichole Quick, Brianna Nguyen, Ebony Arvelo, Daniel Bennett, Kyla Marshall, Alberto Rodriquez, Angel Bien, Jenny Kim, Angel Hernandez, Chelsea Madera, Alexander Day and Nicholas Bonilla.

Through this unique experience, the students are broken up into 11 teams of four and are learn about problem solving, engineering, computer programming, and applied mathematics through the use of EV3 LEGO robotics kits. During the competition, the representatives from Phifer work with other students from both Maple Shade and Carusi middle schools. This exciting event took place on five consecutive Saturdays in October and November. I had



Students from Phifer Middle School competed in a robotics competition sponsored by Lockheed Martin.

the pleasure of attending the first two competitions in which the students were given various robotics challenges to solve.

On Oct. 7, the students had to con-

struct a robot that could maneuver through a race course and earn points along the way based on accurate programming. Congrats to Chelsea Madera and Nicholas Wolff's team, who took first

place with the fastest robot race time! Phifer is also proud of Alexander Day's team for earning second place, and Nicholas Bonilla's team for taking third! Nicholas Wolff said, "Now that I'm an eighth grader, I don't have robotics class anymore, so I am excited about being able to work with the robots every week at Lockheed! I also can't wait to create my own 3-D design, which the Lockheed Martin engineers said they will 3-D print for me once I create it."

During the next competition on Oct. 14, the students had the goal of creating a robot with a color sensor that could follow a black line against a white background in the fastest time. Students not only had to create a robot program capable of making decisions based on whether or not their robot's color sensor detected black or white, but there were also many other variables they had to take into account. For example, students had to decide if there was a particular way they needed to position their robot in relation to the line to make the code work in both directions. They also had to decide how high to construct their color sensor off the ground. Finally, the students had to solve the problem of positioning their color sensor either vertical or at the exact angle that would allow the robot to reflect light accurately so it could detect the proper color. Elissa Gallo said, "My favorite part of the Lockheed Martin Robotics program is building with the EV3 robot parts and

figuring out how to use the new tools and sensors."

During this challenge, Nicholas Bonilla's team took first place and made it around the black line course with the fastest robot time in both directions! Alexander Day's team took second place; and Nichole Quick, Kyla Marshall and Angel Hernandez's team all took third place! Angel Bien's team was also very close to placing in the top three! He received an honorable mention by Lockheed Martin Senior Engineer Michael Kopacks. Angel Bien said, "My favorite part of the competition is that we get to work with people from different schools. I also like that our team members are all assigned different roles and I'm excited to work with them on each challenge!"

All students who participated from Pennsauken, Maple Shade, and Carusi did an excellent job in week one and week two, whether they placed in the top three or not! Pennsauken student Brianna Nguyen said, "I do not play any team sports, but this was my first experience working on a true team and it was amazing! We worked together nicely and communicated well. I am excited about having a new role on my team each week."

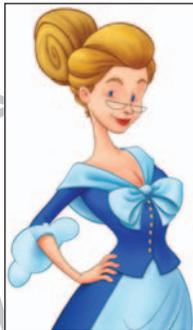
"It is not important if your team won or lost," says Kopacks. "What matters is how you work as a team to learn something and solve the problem in the best way you can with the allotted time provided."

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**FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi,  
MEd2., M.S., M.B.S.,  
Superintendent,  
Pennsauken Public Schools

As we wrap up November in the 2017-18 school year, I would like to first thank the educators and students for their hard work during this semester. I'd also like to share a great story.

In my time here in Pennsauken, I have seen some incredible things that deserve acknowledgement, both educationally and athletically. However, I would like to take some time to tug on your heart strings with an incredible narrative that deserves time in a newspaper. At November's basketball tryouts, Pennsauken proved to be the district of miracles. A young man collapsed during practice; due to the fast thinking and steady hands of our administrators, teachers, and coaches, that young man is alive and healthy today. One coach in particular showed that he is truly a gift to the Pennsauken School District. I would like to take this time to honor Mr. Tom Connors, our prestigious athletic trainer. Mr. Connors is someone who could be an athletic trainer at the Division I level or the professional athletic arena. However, he chooses to serve the students of Pennsauken and has done so extremely well for the past 30 years. He is a staple in our high school and a legend within the district. I salute you Coach and I thank you for being there for our kids, showing that humbly saving a life is worth more than anything money could buy.

Ladies and gentleman, I have seen many athletic trainers at many different athletic levels, Coach Tom Connors is

## An Inspirational Story And A Look To The Future Of Pennsauken Schools

leagues ahead of the rest.

### The Future Of Pennsauken Schools

During the last year and a half, we have worked exceptionally hard to catalyze educational and athletic growth within this great district. We have created four state certified career and technical educational programs, including automotive technology, culinary arts, cosmetology, and carpentry. At last month's Board of Education meeting, we approved the construction of both our welding and electrical construction career and technical educational programs to prepare them for the 2018-19 school year. We have created and certified articulation agreements with Camden County College and Rowan College of Burlington County for dual credit programs within our high school. Students can now leave Pennsauken Public Schools with an Associate's Degree before they receive their high school diploma. Lastly, we have been approved for an Air Force Junior ROTC program that is set to begin this January, where two Air Force officers will teach full time at Pennsauken High School.

These are great offerings, but more is needed to give our students the best possible education and make Pennsauken Public Schools a district of complete opportunity. We have put together a bond referendum where close to \$36 million will be put into our district and school taxes of residents will actually decrease by \$11.06. This referendum is not for one building; it completes the entire district.

Some of the changes include a full day pre-kindergarten at no cost to residents; middle school renovations to include three new science laboratories and six new classrooms; complete renovation of our athletic fields at the high school, including lights, an eight-lane track, and an all purpose turf field, as well as new classrooms and desperately needed changes to the building; the development of Pennsauken's High Tech High School; a state of the art park at Longfellow; and the installation security vestibules in every school within our district.

We are having a "Taste of Pennsauken" on Friday, Dec. 8, 6:00 p.m., at the PYAA Field House, 3501 Elm Ave. Not only will you hear about these proposed changes from administrators, teachers, coaches, and myself, but you can also help us recognize and honor a legendary educator, Mr. Rick Taylor. Please come out and learn how we are going to bring your taxes down, your property values up, and give the students of Pennsauken even more of the high quality educational opportunities they deserve.

### Spend Time With The Super

Please join me for "Coffee and Questions with the Superintendent," taking place this month on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. before the board meeting at the main office area of Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd. This is a time where concerned parents or Pennsauken residents can come and ask questions regarding any topic within the school district.

## PHS Students Visit College Fair

Students from Pennsauken High School traveled to the annual Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges and Universities College Fair last month. Twenty students were accepted on the spot to various colleges. Karoline Cedano received the Presidential Schol-

arship - 100 percent paid tuition - for Harris Stowe State University in St. Louis. In addition, Sydney Slaton received the Dean's Scholarship - 50 percent paid tuition - for Harris Stowe State University as well.

Congratulations to all of our students!



Students traveled to the annual Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges and Universities College Fair in November.

## Carson School Fall Back Friday Readers Visit Ms. Anderson's Class



Carson third graders Alivia and Joshua visited their old kindergarten room and read stories to future readers!

## Fine Pre-K Students Learn About Buildings

At George B Fine Elementary school, Miss Gordon and Ms. Rispoli's Pre-K classes have been studying buildings. Students have explored how buildings are constructed, what materials are used, and many other concepts focused around the study of buildings.

To conclude the study of buildings, Mr. Draine visited the Pre-K students and showed them all the tools that a construction worker uses in order to stay safe. The students learned how workers protect their body by wearing hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, a bright colored vest, and even special earmuffs. The students also tried on some of Mr. Draine's safety equipment.

Ms. Rispoli, Miss Gordon, and the morning Pre-K classes at Fine Elemen-



Construction worker Mr. Draine visited Fine School Pre-K students as part of their study on buildings.

tary would like to give a special thank you to Mr. Draine for visiting the class-

room and providing a fun, hands-on experience!

## PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of "All Around Pennsauken" please contact:

Nicole Roberts, Editor [nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net](mailto:nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net)

## Board of Education Meeting

The Pennsauken Township Board of Education will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 7:00 p.m. at Pennsauken High School, Room #327, 800 Hylton Rd., Pennsauken, N.J. 08110. The public is invited to attend.

Prior to the meeting at the Administrative Office, Dr. Tarchichi will hold the monthly "Coffee and Conversation with the Superintendent" from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the main office area of the high school. During this time, parents or residents can come and ask questions regarding any topic within the school district.



By the Pennsauken Board of Education: Nick Perry, President; Allyson Meloni-Scavuzzo, Vice President; Cheryl Duffy; Michael Hurley; Diane Johnson; Leona Moss; Jennifer Slattery; Orlando Viera; and JoAnn Young

Each year at the end of October, the Pennsauken Board of Education attends the annual New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) Work-

## Back To School For Board Of Education Members

shop. The workshop provides boards of education from every school district in New Jersey, as well as superintendents, business administrators, curriculum directors, technology coordinators, and school facility directors, with the opportunity to receive professional development training in various school related areas, which serves to help them as they are fulfilling their roles in the district.

This year, the annual workshop was held Oct. 23-26 at the Convention Center in Atlantic City. The theme of the workshop was "Education for A Common Purpose." According to the NJSBA, the theme "reflects the evolu-

tion of public education and its impact on our country."

During the four-day workshop, more than 250 learning opportunities were available for attendees. Pennsauken Board of Education members attended sessions such as "Working with the News Media— What Board Leaders Need to Know?"; "School Ethics— Where are we now?"; "Use and Abuse of Social Media by Teachers and Students"; "Driving Instruction or Driving Ourselves Nuts— Five New CTE Programs in One Year," as well as a variety of other sessions to increase their knowledge of various school related topics. The NJSBA also

offered mandated governance trainings, which provide board members with instruction in specific school-related areas like finance and policy. These trainings are required to be completed by all board of education members at various times during their term. Several Pennsauken Board of Education members completed their governance trainings during this year's workshop.

The Pennsauken Board of Education values every opportunity to become more knowledgeable regarding issues that affect school districts. The NJSBA Workshop allows board members to learn about current research,

ideas, policies, and laws that can help to inform the very important decisions that we have to make. We are thankful for the opportunity to attend the Workshop and cannot wait to bring all that we have learned back to Pennsauken School District!

### Board Bit Of The Month

This is the first year that the NJSBA Workshop has been four days in duration. The extra day of activities allowed for attending Pennsauken Board of Education members to have more time for more learning!

## Hispanic Culture Comes Alive At Roosevelt

Last month, fourth graders at Roosevelt School took students and several parents on a plane ride to the Hispanic countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Audience members "traveled" to Mexico, Columbia, Peru, Bolivia, Cuba, and Puerto Rico. Each stop allowed the audience to learn a little bit about each country's land, culture, and traditions. They were also able to meet some famous Hispanic Americans who were either born abroad or whose parents were born there. Fourth graders in Mrs. Dicupe's class dressed up as notable people such as salsa vocalist Celia Cruz, guitarist Carlos Santana, boxer Oscar De La Hoya, and labor leader Dolores

Huerta, to name a few. Mrs. Matthews' fourth graders showed PowerPoint presentations honoring baseball player Roberto Clemente, singer Gloria Estefan, labor leader Cesar Chavez, Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, and educator Jaime Escalante.

The program allowed the fourth grade students to share the research they had done during September and October with the rest of the school. Audience members really seemed to enjoy learning about the different countries and dancing along to various Latin rhythms.

The program is a yearly tradition that brings Hispanic culture alive at Roosevelt School.



Last month, fourth graders at Roosevelt School made special presentations highlighting Hispanic culture.

## Carson Fourth Grade Students Visit Rowan University



Fourth grade students from Carson School toured Rowan University's campus in October. The students delighted in their visit to the planetarium, where they experienced a virtual rollercoaster ride. A walking tour of the campus kept the students busy; they were impressed with the academic buildings, student center, recreational facilities and the dormitories. Everyone was tired, but happy, after their visit.

## Fine Raises Funds To "Crush Cancer"

Fine School staff showed their love and support for fellow teacher Rebecca Capizzi, who is currently battling breast cancer, by wearing t-shirts for team "Cancer Crushers: Peace, Love, Cure" to school in October. Mrs. Capizzi led team Cancer Crushers in raising \$6,490 for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.

We wish her well as she continues to crush her way through treatment!

## SEASONS GREETINGS!

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*A Special Christmas Wish—  
May peace, hope, and love  
be this season's gift to all!*

## Delair's Student Council Organizes Puerto Rico Supply Drive

Student council members at Delair Elementary School organized a supply drive for the people of Puerto Rico, who are still suffering the devastating effects from Hurricane Maria. The school community came through with leaps and bounds, which enabled Delair to fill an entire truck with donated non-perishable items. Camden Shipping Company shipped the items directly to Puerto Rico.

We all became a Delair H.E.R.O. (Helpful, Engaged, Respectful, and On-Task) through our efforts in supporting people in need, which also directly impacted the family of many members of our community.



Student council members at Delair Elementary School organized a supply drive for the people of Puerto Rico, who are still suffering the devastating effects from Hurricane Maria.

## First Graders Build "Wall Of Respect"



During the "Week of Respect," first graders in Miss Iapalucci, Mrs. Coyne, Ms. Gillis, and Mrs. Avery's classes at Delair Elementary discussed and demonstrated what it means to show respect. The students each drew and labeled examples of respect on "Bricks" to build a "Wall of Respect."

## Young Scientists Learning About Irrigation



Third grade students in Mrs. Monaghan and Ms. Komis' classes at Fine Elementary learned about the irrigation system. Students worked in small groups to discuss ideas, problem solve, and design their own irrigation system. Way to go Fine scientists!

**Tune in to  
Pennsauken TV  
on Cable  
Channel 19**

## Fine Celebrates Hispanic Culture At Assembly



Fine School celebrated their second annual Hispanic assembly. Third and fourth graders performed different Hispanic music, read a bilingual poem, and shared the stories of many notable Hispanic Americans. The assembly was decorated with student's artistic work from Mrs. Cotto's art class. Students also shared an "El Vejigante" mask used for the Carnaval de Ponce in Puerto Rico. It was an event full of joy and excitement. Special thanks to Mrs. Cotto, Ms. Ortiz and to all the students who participated.

## Roosevelt School Hosts Parent Involvement Night

Students in Roosevelt's basic skills program and their parents were invited to the Roosevelt School Parent Involvement Night last month. Attendees were treated to a light dinner; guests were then split up into groups and attended three mini-sessions led by the school's teachers.

Mrs. Wheeler and Mrs. Upshaw ran the language arts session. A PowerPoint highlighted the importance of reading at home and suggested different ways to engage children to develop their reading skills. Parents then made two "questioning cubes;" parents and children worked together rolling the cubes and answered questions using the books provided. All children in attendance were given a fiction and nonfiction book to take home and use with their new questioning cubes.

Mr. Helfman and Mrs. James led the math group. Each student was given manipulatives to work with. Along with the manipulatives, students were given a packet with a variety of card and dice games to engage with at home. Students and their parents jumped right in and started playing and now have the materials to continue playing these games.

Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Horiates led a session in the computer lab. Families were introduced to all of the technology components being utilized in the classroom. They were also reminded of ways to use them at home. This session was informative and very hands on.

The night was capped off with a raffle led by Mrs. Massey, vice principle at Roosevelt, and several families received prizes. A fun time was had by all!

## Phifer Students Destined For Greatness



Phifer Middle School recognized students "Destined for Greatness" for the month of October. Congratulations to Donovan Acetti, Ayen Aldana, Doraine Baker, William Brunges, Yamil Colon, Tiffany Guerreo, Anthony Johnson, Jenny Kim, David Mai, Janet Melendez, Andre Pratt, Andres Roberts, and Linda Tran.

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

*Mark Your Calendars!*

DOUBLE DOZEN WINTER CONCERT  
Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7:00 p.m., PHS, 800 Hylton Rd.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Tuesday, Dec. 19, 7:00 p.m., PHS, 800 Hylton Rd.

EARLY DISMISSAL  
Thursday, Dec. 21 and Friday, Dec. 22

WINTER VACATION  
Monday, Dec. 25 through Monday, Jan. 1  
Thursday, Nov. 30

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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## HEALTHYLIFESTYLES Ho Oh No... Dealing With Stress During The Holidays

The holidays. There's no more special – or stressful – time of year, particularly when it comes to family. During this emotionally charged holiday season, self-control, patience, and familial bonds can be put to the test.

Just like there can be many different types of presents placed under the tree, there are a variety of stressors that will be unwrapped this time of year, sometimes to the surprise of family and friends.

### Affording The Holidays

With a big emphasis on gift giving during the holidays, it can be difficult adjusting family expectations during this time of year, especially if financial belt-tightening is occurring. In cases where families are trying to be financially realistic, it's important to set a budget and stick to it. Don't overextend yourself; spending too much today only comes due tomorrow.

### Coping With Loss

Finding the balance between the joys of the season and the grief of losing a loved one can be extremely tough, particularly if that loss is relatively recent. Honor the memory of loved ones by continuing holiday traditions, but also consider creating new ones to help with the grieving process. Remember, there is no timeline or set formula to deal with grief. It affects each person differently. Be patient with yourself as you work through your emotions.

### Changes In Family Relationships

Younger family members may have difficulty processing their feelings when dealing with issues like divorce or separation during the holidays. Acknowledge

their – and your own – feelings throughout the holidays. Manage expectations and be aware that stressful situations can't always be avoided.

### Inappropriately Dealing With Stress

Holiday celebrations can be fun outlets for stress relief and enjoyment of the season; they can also be notorious for overindulgence in food, drink, and more. Too much of anything is a bad thing, particularly when used as a way to de-stress. Learn to say no and don't abandon healthy habits when it comes to diet and exercise.



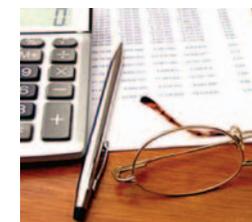
They say that negative reactions to stress come from either having something happen that you don't expect, or a different outcome occurs than what you anticipated. This is true whether it's a holiday or not. By being aware that there

are some things out of your control and focusing on the positive aspects of the holidays, you can take steps to having a more joyful and festive season.

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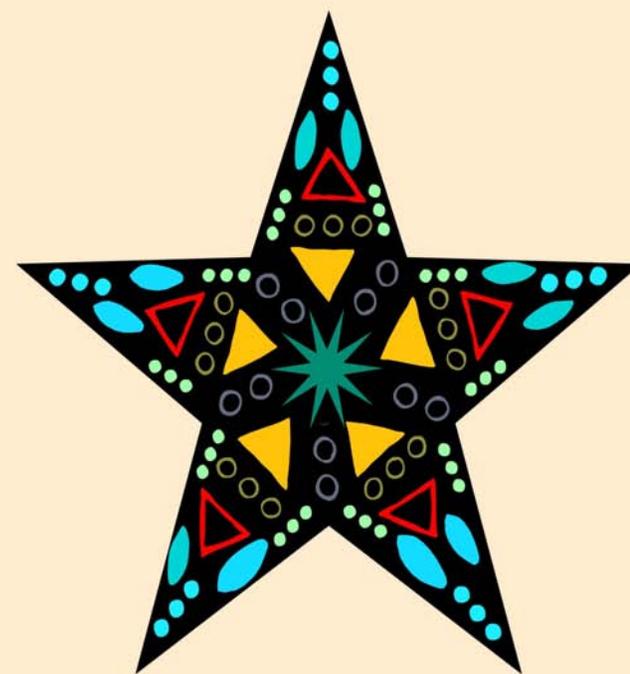
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## Eilandarts Holiday Market at the Station



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Saturday December 9, 4-9pm  
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10 E. Chestnut Avenue, Merchantville, NJ 08109  
www.eilandarts.com



### Tip of the Month

Beware of "Package Pirates" during the holidays! Many thieves follow UPS or FedEx trucks to steal packages right off of porches. Have your packages delivered to a location where they can be received in person, such as with a neighbor or a relative's house. You can even have it sent to your work, if your employer allows it. Another option is to request that the delivery company hold your package at the closest pick-up facility until you can pick it up in person.

These simple steps can keep your home and family safe!

## Keep Homes Safe During Holidays With Safety Tips For Decorating

Submitted by the Pennsauken-Collingswood Fire Prevention & Inspection Bureau Reprinted with Permission from the US Consumer Product Safety Commission

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is issuing safety tips for holiday decorations. Holiday decorations, like candles, lights and Christmas trees, add a joyous and festive mood to the holiday season. But when these decorations are not used properly, they can cause fires, injuries and death.

Each year, hospital emergency rooms treat about 12,500 people for falls, cuts, shocks, and burns due to incidents involving faulty holiday lights, dried-out Christmas trees and other holiday decorations.

To prevent these injuries, CPSC monitors holiday lights and other decorations sold at stores and on the Internet. CPSC works with the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection to identify and detain unsafe holiday light sets posing fire risks from being distributed in the U.S.

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Christmas trees are involved in about 300 fires annually, resulting in 10 deaths, 30 injuries and an average of about \$10 million in property damage and loss. In addition, there are more than 13,000 candle-related fires each year, which result in 140 deaths and \$205 million in property loss.

"The flickering light of candles can add beauty and tradition to the holidays," said CPSC Chairman Ann Marie Buerkle. "However, when left unattended or within a child's reach, burning candles can turn your celebration into tragedy. Following a few simple safety tips can help prevent holiday decoration-related fires."

CPSC suggests following these tips to make your holiday a safe one.

### TREES

- When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." Although this label does not mean the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree is more resistant to burning.
- When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and do not break when bent between your fingers. The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.

- When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces and radiators. Because heated rooms dry live trees out rapidly, be sure to keep the stand filled with water. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

### LIGHTS

- Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory, such as UL or ETL. This indicates conformance with safety standards. Use only lights that have plugs containing fuses.
- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Throw out damaged sets. Always replace burned-out bulbs promptly with the same wattage bulbs.
- If using an extension cord, make sure it is rated for the intended use.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.
- Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use.
- Stay away from power or feeder lines leading from utility poles into older homes.

- Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls, or other firm supports to protect the lights from wind damage. Use only insulated staples (not nails or tacks) to hold strings in place. Or, run strings of lights through hooks (available at hardware stores).
- Turn off all holiday lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.
- Use caution when removing outdoor holiday lights. Never pull or tug on lights – this could cause stress on the connections that could create a fire hazard.
- Outdoor electric lights and decorations should be plugged into circuits protected by ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) to protect against electric shock. Portable outdoor GFCIs can be purchased where electrical supplies are sold. GFCIs can also be installed permanently to household circuits by a qualified electrician.

### CANDLES AND OTHER DECORATIONS

- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals. Leaded materials are hazardous if ingested by children.
- Keep burning candles within sight.
- Never use lighted candles on a tree or

- near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles out of reach of children and pets.
- In homes with small children, take special care to avoid sharp or breakable decorations, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children who could swallow or inhale small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them.
- To avoid eye and skin irritation, wear gloves when decorating with spun glass "angel hair."
- To avoid lung irritation, follow container directions carefully while decorating with artificial snow sprays.

### FIREPLACES

- Use care with "fire salts," which produce colored flames when thrown on wood fires. They contain heavy metals that, if eaten, can cause intense gastrointestinal irritation and vomiting. Keep them away from children.
- Do not burn wrapping papers in the fireplace. Wrappings can ignite suddenly and burn intensely, resulting in a flash fire.

For more holiday decoration safety, visit [www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/121347/611.pdf](http://www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/121347/611.pdf).



## Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110

Phone: (856) 663-5542 • Fax: (856) 663-5718 • 24 Hour Emergency: (856) 662-0686

*Wishing All A Happy and Safe Holiday Season!*



### Important Customer Information

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewerage collection system in our service area. The sanitary sewerage collection system is made up of main lines, force mains and

pumping stations.

The homeowner owns and therefore responsible for the operation and maintenance of the lateral line from their dwelling up to and including the connection to the main line.

The rules and regulations of the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority require a back flow prevention device commonly referred to as a "back check valve" be installed whenever plumbing fixtures are located below street level

such as in the basement. PSA strongly recommends all our customers have a back check valve installed to prevent contamination in the event of a main line stoppage.

The discharge of water collected in a

sump pit to the sanitary sewerage collection system is prohibited.

Cooking grease poured down the drain can cause a blockage of the lateral line. Please dispose of grease properly.

**Our hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Friday 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM at 1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken**  
**Our phone number is (856) 663-5542. Our fax number is (856) 663-5718. Our web address is [ps sewer.com](http://ps sewer.com).**

**FOR ASSISTANCE 24 HOURS A DAY CALL (856) 662-0686**

### REMINDER: CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

#### OFFICE HOURS:

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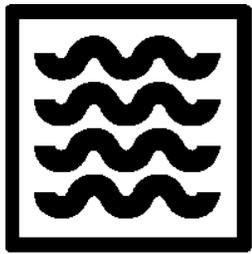
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# MPWC WATERLINES

*The Commissioners and staff of The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission would like to wish you a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!*

Please note that we will be closed for Christmas on Monday, December 25, 2017, and on New Year's Day, Monday, January 1, 2018.

## MPWC – The One to Beat!

By Michael A. Saraceni, C.O.O., MPWC

In the fall issue of the “Pipeline,” a trade magazine published by the New Jersey American Water Works Association, the MPWC was recognized for the second time in three

years for winning the “Best Tasting Water in New Jersey” competition. The AWWA establishes consensus standards for water purveyors, as evidenced with the recent enact-

ment of the Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA). As we continue our pursuit of excellence, water quality, customer confidence, and regulatory compliance will re-

main priority one. We are both proud and passionate of this achievement and will welcome the competition in 2018!

## A Reminder To Our Senior And Disabled Customers

With the end of the year quickly approaching, remember to submit your enrollment form for your 2018 discount! Please note that even if you are currently receiving a discount, you must apply EACH year to continue receiving your discount. Now is a good time to collect any information you may need for your application. Stop by our administrative headquarters on Westfield Ave. in Pennsauken to pick up an application. You may also print a copy of the enrollment form by visiting our website at [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com). Our customer support representatives will be happy to assist you in completing your enrollment form. Your enrollment form requires your block and lot number, so please bring along a copy of your tax bill.



### Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission Makes it Two Out of Three

On May 11, 2017, Section Chair Nicole Wiley and Vice-Chair Brian Carr attended our second Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission public meeting in three years. Once again, it was a happy occasion. The water from Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission was the top vote getter at this year's Best Tasting Water competition at the Spring Conference. The MPWC beat out nearly a dozen competitors who brought their best stuff in securing the title. AWWA NJ presented a plaque and trophy at the Commission's public meeting to commemorate the accomplishment, which the entire utility can be proud of. This makes it two wins in three years as the Commission also took home the honors in 2015. Does your water have what it takes to stack up against the MPWC's Potomac-Raritan Aquifer? Will MPWC make it three for four? Enter the competition in 2018 and let your water speak for itself.



The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

These meetings are open to the public and are held at 6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken.

#### Questions about your service?

Call 663-0043 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., emergencies – call 663-0045 anytime.

MERCHANTVILLE – PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION  
6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com)

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President

Mr. Patrick Brennan, Vice President • Mr. G. Burton German, Jr., Treasurer  
Mr. George Piperno, Secretary • Mr. Ronald Johnson, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

## Online Resources Help Keep Pennsauken Residents Informed

With all the holidays during this time of year, how can I receive a reminder of if trash is getting picked up or not? Where can I find the agendas for upcoming Township Committee meetings? Is the Township still picking up leaves? These are just some of the questions residents may have this month. Sometimes, finding the answers are easy. Other times, residents may not know where to go to get the information they need. Fortunately, Pennsauken Township has a variety of online tools available that help residents stay informed.

### On The Web

Pennsauken Township's web site, [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us), has several links that can help point residents in the right direction. At the top of the menu on the left hand side of every page on the Township's web site, there's a "What Department Do I Need?" button. From issues about abandoned/vacant properties to zoning questions, you can find the appropriate phone number to get the answers you need by clicking that link.

At the bottom of that same menu, there's a "Keep Me Informed" button. Clicking that link will take you to an online form to sign up for Pennsauken Township's eNewsletter. Residents will be e-mailed information about community events, holiday schedule changes, and more.

By clicking on the "Contact Us" button, you'll find an online form residents can use to reach out to the Clerk's Office, send an issue about Township roads, contact the Police Department, etc. You'll also find a link containing specific extensions for Township staff.

The Pennsauken Police also have an anonymous tip form on the web site. Visit [www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/police/anonymous-tip-form](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/police/anonymous-tip-form) and submit your crime tip without giving any personal information. Your message will be sent directly to detectives in the Pennsauken Police Department.

The Pennsauken School District's site, <http://www.pennsauken.net>, posts a variety of announcements and news items on its main page. The site provides a variety of information, including employment opportunities, parent resources, a list of key district personnel, and more. You can also access the District calendar, which highlights a variety of events.

### Social Media

Pennsauken Township has a Facebook page that posts information several times throughout the week and responds to questions from residents. Be sure to visit [www.facebook.com/PennsaukenTwp/](http://www.facebook.com/PennsaukenTwp/) and "Like" the page so that updates show up on your newsfeed. The Pennsauken Township Police Department,

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission, and the Pennsauken School District, also have very active Facebook pages; each posts information on a regular basis.

The Township's Twitter account, @PennsaukenTwp, generally posts information several times each month. The Fire Department, @PennsaukenFire, actively tweets as well.

### Reverse 9-1-1

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission employs a reverse 9-1-1 notification system, which informs customers about water main breaks, hydrant flushing, etc. The Township also uses the system to provide updates on changes to trash and recycling pick up, snow closures, and more. If you haven't signed up already, visit [www.mpwc.com/notify-me/](http://www.mpwc.com/notify-me/) and complete the form on the page.

So be sure to take advantage of these online resources to get notifications from the Township and stay informed. And for the record, signing up for the MPWC's reverse 9-1-1 notification system will allow you to receive messages about "trash holidays;" Township Committee meeting agendas are available on the day of at Pennsauken's web site; and the Public Works Department will still collect leaves throughout the Township until the end of the month, weather permitting.

## Please Return Borrowed Wheelchairs To Township

Pennsauken Township offers wheelchairs and walkers for seniors in temporary need of them. Currently, all of these wheelchairs are out. Anyone who has borrowed a wheelchair or walker and is done with them is asked to return them as quickly as possible so that other seniors can use them. The Township is also accepting donations of wheelchairs and walkers in good condition that are no longer in use.

For additional information, call Pennsauken's senior citizen coordinator at (856) 665-1000 x125.



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# inBooks December Events At The Library

## PENNSAUKEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Ripples of Care Yarning Bee – Fridays, Dec. 1 & 8; 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Knit, crochet, or loom items for selected causes: Foster Care to Success red scarves for college students; Operation Gratitude hats and scarves for veterans; and hospital NICUs premie hats and blankets. Limited yarn is available. You may also choose to work on your project(s) at home or at the library. Please pick-up project guidelines and mailing information at the Library's Reference Desk or visit [PennsaukenLibrary.org](http://PennsaukenLibrary.org).
- Pain Relief with Self Hypnosis – Saturday, Dec. 2; 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. This is the make-up date for the Sept. 16 cancelled program with Margaret Worthington. To sign-up, please call the Library at (856) 665-5959 ext. 3.
- Holiday Cookie Sale – Saturday, Dec. 9; noon – 4:00 p.m. Indulge your sweet tooth or get a yummy treat for someone special. Show your Friends of the Pennsauken Library membership card and get one bag of cookies FREE. All cookies are \$1.00 a bag.
- Munch and a Movie – Wednesday, Dec. 13; 12:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy a FREE movie and snack,

courtesy of The Friends of the Library. For this month's movie selection, please call the Library at (856) 665-5959.

- Library Board Meeting - Monday, Dec. 18; 6:00 p.m. The Library Board is the governing body for the Pennsauken Library. Each month, the members meet to review current issues, budget, policies, and staffing. The community is encouraged to attend these meetings.

### For Children Accompanied By Their Caregivers:

- Storytime – Wednesdays, Dec. 6 & 13; 11:00 a.m. and Thursdays, Dec. 7 & 14; 2:00 p.m. Miss Susan and Miss Sabrina welcome you to a fun-filled time of stories, songs, and a craft. For ages 0-5.
- Tail Waggin' Tutors – Fridays, Dec. 1 & 8, Wednesday, Dec. 6 & 13; 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Children six years and older will read to therapy dogs from Therapy Dogs International in a relaxed and "dog-friendly" atmosphere. Teens and adults are welcome! Please register at the Children's Desk for this program.
- LEGO Club. – Thursdays, Dec. 7 & 14; 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. You bring the creativity and imagination and we supply

the LEGO and DUPLO bricks (for use in the Library only). For all ages.

- Toddler Movement – Saturday, Dec. 2, 9, & 16; 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Join Miss Sabrina and Miss Susan for a fun and active time of music, guided movements, and dance. For ages 3-5.
- Baby Ballet – Saturday, Dec. 2, 9, & 16; 11:30 a.m. – noon. Join Miss Sabrina and Miss Susan for a fun and active time of music, guided dance movements. For ages 3-5.
- Disney Holiday Celebration – Wednesday, Dec. 27; 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Enjoy Disney movies at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and a celebration with special characters and children's entertainment from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit the Children's and Young Adult Department.

### PENNSAUKEN LIBRARY

856-665-5959  
[www.pennsaukenlibrary.org](http://www.pennsaukenlibrary.org)

#### HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CLOSED: Sunday, Dec. 24 through Tuesday, Dec. 26 in observance of Christmas, as well as on Monday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day.

The Library will be closing at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 31.

## Check Out Some Holiday Fun At The Pennsauken Library

December kicks off both the holidays and the winter season! It's a great time to warm up to some great books and movies that are perfect for this time of year.

"A Christmas Carol" is a timeless classic; and the Pennsauken Free Public Library offers multiple ways to enjoy Charles Dickens' masterpiece, from the novel itself, to a variety of movie adaptations. There's even an audio book!

There are also plenty of modern classics in the Library's DVD catalog, including "Elf," "Love Actually," and... ahem... "Bad Santa."

For everyone's favorite caroler, there are plenty of songs to sing along to, with CDs filled with holiday classics, new takes on old standards, and more.

For the kids, there are plenty of selections for them to read and watch in the Children and Young Adult section. You'll find holiday stories with a variety of favorites, including "Alvin and the Chipmunks," "Dora the Explorer," "Elmo," "The Muppets," and "VeggieTales." You'll also find plenty of the Rankin-Bass classics, including "Rudolph The Red-nosed Reindeer," "Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town," and

"Frosty The Snowman."

And you won't just find things for Christmas. For those looking forward to Hanukkah, you can find a variety of books and movies, including "Celebrate Hanukkah," "Maccabees: The Story Of Hanukkah," and even the Adam Sandler cult classic, "Eight Crazy Nights." For Kwanzaa, there's "Seven Candles For Kwanzaa," "It's Kwanzaa Time," "Crafts for Kwanzaa," and more.

And if you're looking for something to do on winter break when the kids are out of school, be sure to check out the Library's museum pass program, which enables patrons to visit several area museums, providing opportunities for learning, leisure, cultural enrichment, and fun. And it's for FREE! Just be sure to check your passes out in plenty of time. These are in high demand and the Library's closed from Dec. 24-26. You can find more information on this program by visiting [PennsaukenLibrary.org](http://PennsaukenLibrary.org).

So whatever – and however – you celebrate this time of year, the staff of the Pennsauken Free Public Library wishes you and yours a very happy and joyous holiday season.

**For advertising rates & information call 662-5100 or email [allaroundpenn@aol.com](mailto:allaroundpenn@aol.com)**

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## Local Sports Star Shows Support For Team Pennsauken



Pennsauken native and local sports star Greg Mark is showing his support for Team Pennsauken.

Pennsauken is well represented in Miami, Fla. Township native and local sports star Greg Mark is showing his support for Team Pennsauken.

Mark played on the 1984 Pennsauken High School football team, which went undefeated and were South Jersey Group 4 champions. His collegiate career was played at the University of Miami, where he accumulated 253 tackles, 95 quarterback pressures and 34.5 sacks. In 1989, after collecting 15.5 sacks, he was a semifinalist for the prestigious Lombardi Award, and was a two-time collegiate football National Champion (1987, 1989) and a 1989 All American (Associated Press, Kodak) at defensive end.

Greg, who was drafted by the New

York Giants in the third round in 1990, also played for the Eagles and Dolphins before returning to his alma mater. At the University of Miami, Mark was an assistant coach for the defensive line at Miami for 13 seasons, including the 2001 National Championship year. He has been inducted into both the South Jersey Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame and The University of Miami Sports Hall of Fame.

Team Pennsauken is made up of

members of the Pennsauken and Merchantville Police Departments who ride bicycles with the Police Unity Tour Chapter II. The three-day Police Unity Tour begins in South Jersey, visiting some of the towns where officers have fallen in the line of duty before departing New Jersey en route to the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington DC. The officers bike close to 300 miles during the tour.

The "Team Pennsauken" t-shirt Mark

is wearing in the accompanying photo is available for purchase at the Pennsauken Township Police Department, 2400 Bethel Ave. Short sleeve shirts are \$20 and long sleeve shirts are \$25; all proceeds go to raising awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty, as well as raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum.

For more information, call (856) 488-0080, x2041, x2042, or x2411.

### Students Get Free Haircuts At Crescent Hill Academy



Last month, Adrian Holden from Grade A Cuts in Pennsgrove gave students at Pennsauken's Crescent Hill Academy a fresh trim free of charge.

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## FOODADVENTURES Two Festive Food Favorites For The Holidays



By Rachael Shugars, AAP  
Columnist

As a child I'm sure everyone had their favorite holiday treats around Christmas and Thanksgiving. For this month's article, I decided to highlight the delicious uniqueness of two personal favorites: pfeffernüsse (pronounced fef-er-noos-a) cookies and panettone bread.

Being from a multicultural background, my upbringing had international food perks galore. I can't remember the first time I had pfeffernüsse cookies, but every year since, it has been a staple holiday food item. Pfeffernüsse, or peppernut cookies, are a German spiced cookie covered in a frosted coating. The history of the cookie is unknown, but it is believed to be from the Netherlands; however, this cookie needs to be internationally known.



Spice cookies called Pfeffernüsse are popular holiday treats in Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands; you can also find them in your local grocery store.

One of my favorite techniques when enjoying this cookie is to dip it in hot cocoa or coffee. The cookie is slightly soft and after dipping it, its frosty coating adds an extra hint of sweetness to the whole experience. I bought my first pack this year already. They normally go for around \$3 dollars per pack and are available at most major grocery stores.

My other holiday favorite is panettone bread. This is an Italian treat but does have a history in other regions of Europe, including Spain. Panettone is a sweet bread that has fruits and nuts baked inside of it. Some of you might be thinking, "FRUITCAKE!" but I assure you this is far from it. This sweet bread is soft and fluffy. It isn't messy and can be served a variety of ways. I normally just tear a piece off of the loaf, slather some

butter on it and enjoy. I know other people who will heat or toast theirs before putting butter on it. Lastly, try to control your excitement about this one: panettone French toast! You slice pieces off and dip and pan fry them just like you would with regular bread. It's heavenly and doesn't need much in the way of flavor enhancers because everything is already packed inside of it. Panettone can be found in a lot of places. Italian bakeries and major grocery stores normally carry this in varying sizes. The smaller loaves start at about \$5. These are also fantastic gifts if you're going to someone's house for dinner and want to bring something other than wine.

I would like to also give an honorable mention to all of the national food holidays in the month of December:

12/3 – Peppermint Latte Day  
12/4 – Cookie Day  
12/8 – Brownie Day  
12/11 – "Have a Bagel" Day  
12/14 – Biscuits and Gravy Day  
12/17 – Maple Syrup Day  
12/21 – Hamburger Day  
12/23 – PFEFFERNÜSSE DAY!!!  
12/24 – Eggnog Day  
12/25 – Pumpkin Pie Day  
12/26 – Candy Cane Day  
12/31 – Champagne Day

This year has been an awesome culinary journey for me and hopefully for those who read along in my articles. I hope 2018 brings on many new, exciting food locations. Happy holidays to you and yours and remember to always enjoy your food adventures!

## LaScala Restaurant Group Coming To Cooper River Park

The Camden County Freeholder Board and the LaScala Restaurant Group will open in Cooper River Park by the end of the year. LaScala's will bring creative pizza, artisan Italian food and world beers to the space formerly known as the Cooper House, which is currently closed for renovations.

"We are excited to partner with the LaScala Restaurant Group to bring this new casual concept to Cooper River Park," said Freeholder Jeff Nash, liaison to the Camden County Parks Department. "With its diverse menu and com-

manding view of the Cooper River, this will become another reason to visit one of Camden County's great public spaces."

The KTMK Group operated the Cooper House in the 6,572 square-foot restaurant space from June 5, 2016 to November 10, 2017. The LaScala Restaurant Group is assuming KTMK's lease, which has two years left on the term. Previously, the WPA-constructed building was known to generations of Camden County restaurateurs as the Lobster Trap.

"This is a great opportunity for us to offer some amazing food in a truly one-

of-a-kind setting," said Rob LaScala. "We are enthusiastic to be a part of the excitement taking place in Cooper River Park and being able to provide top-flight service to the thousands of visitors."

The award-winning LaScala Restaurant Group has operated eateries in Philadelphia and South Jersey since 1991. Their newest addition will be located at 5300 North Park Drive in Pennsauken Township on the banks of the river and adjacent to Veterans Island.

"This will be the perfect place to enjoy a meal along the river, or to have a relaxing dinner with an incredible sunset as a backdrop," Nash said. "This restaurant will quickly become Cooper River Park's destination within a destination."

The restaurant is currently closed for rebranding and minor renovations. An opening date has not been set yet, but most likely will be sometime this month.

All gift cards and parties booked at the Cooper House will be honored by the new vendor. Anyone with questions about previous bookings can call (856) 795-0007.

Spanning more than 340 acres across four municipalities, Cooper River Park is Camden County's gathering spot. The park contains multiple picnic areas where friends and families can gather; a 3.7-mile loop utilized by walkers, runners and bikers every day; and, the largest children's playground in any of the county parks. The Cooper River's Olympic-distance, 2,000-meter straightaway is widely known as one of rowing venues in the country, home to numerous world-class regattas and the Cooper River Boathouse.

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## Pennsauken Holds First Annual Holiday Lights Contest

Pennsauken Township would like to recognize the very best in holiday decorations throughout town. As you get ready to do your best Clark Griswold impersonations, there could be a reward for your efforts this year!

A team of light seekers will be dispatched in their Rudolph-drawn sleighs to locate the most impressive expressions of Christmas spirit the town has to offer. If you want to be sure we don't miss your house, feel free to complete the online form located at the Township's web site, [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us), and your home will be added to the list.

Official judging will occur between the hours of 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Dec. 13-15. Each judging team will perform "street view"

evaluations of your home for creativity, holiday spirit, and general appeal. If you don't have the brightest house in town, don't worry; all types of décor will be considered, from nostalgic to Griswold or religious to detailed. All entries are welcome. A first, second, and third place winner will be chosen, as well as up to three runners up. Prizes will be \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third. Photos of the winning homes will be printed in the January edition of All Around Pennsauken; all houses considered for this competition will be included in both an interactive online map so that residents can enjoy the local light displays, as well as a video montage shown on Channel 19.

Help spread the holiday spirit through-



Pennsauken Township is holding its first annual holiday lights contest. For those that want to make sure their homes aren't missed, an easy-to-use form is available at [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us).

out our neighborhoods by decorating your home or visiting those who do! For more information, call Pennsauken's Parks and Recreation Department at (856) 665-1000 x151.

## New, Unwrapped Toys Needed For Angel Tree Program

*continued from page 1*

Township Municipal Building, Route 130 and Merchantville Avenue, during normal business hours now through 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 18. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.

In addition, the Pennsauken-Merchantville Area Chamber of Commerce

is hosting a holiday happy hour to help "kick-off" this year's donations on Thursday, Dec. 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Marco's at Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd. The event features a complimentary buffet, drink specials, holiday music, and pictures with Santa. All attendees are asked to bring a

new, unwrapped toy for the Angel Tree program. To RSVP for the event, e-mail [pmaclteam@gmail.com](mailto:pmaclteam@gmail.com) or call (856) 438-0833.

For more information, or to volunteer for the Angel Tree program, contact Pennsauken's Parks and Recreation Department at (856) 665-1000, ext. 151.

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## **PUBLICWORKS** When Pennsauken Was 125... It Was A Very Good Year

By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,  
Department of Public Works

On behalf of the crew of your Public Works Department, I want to begin this article by extending our warmest wishes to our residents, businesses and their families for a great holiday season and a very Happy New Year. You may have realized through my writing of this column that I'll borrow some phrases for a catchy title for this otherwise mundane article. My favorite title will always remain February 2016: "Leave the Snow, take the Chocolates." Although our New Year's resolutions would have us exercise more and eat better, it's the intention that

counts! During the annual task of putting up the new calendar and filling in all of the birthdays, anniversaries and other anticipated dates, it gives us the opportunity to set some goals, based upon our experiences of the previous year.

As in most businesses, the end of a calendar year is a time where an organization can look back and evaluate its strengths and areas of improvement.

For those that have called, e-mailed or wrote to Public Works in the past year, you more than likely spoke with Rachael, our super-friendly and helpful full-time office clerk. Make no bones about it; she's the center point for all in-

coming and outgoing issue resolution procedures. Although our town had many highlights in 2017 that our department was involved with, such as a significant number of clean-ups and turn-over of abandoned homes; numerous food truck events; the Harvest Festival and 125th anniversary events; and the annual Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony; I'd like to point out some of the Public Works accomplishments and goals that get me excited.

For the first time ever, Pennsauken's Department of Public Works has collected a year's worth of phone call, e-mail, and walk-in data using a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, as opposed to the piles of handwritten legal pads. It may not sound like much, but by tracking each resident's issue with date, time, issue category and resolution plan, both the Superintendent and myself can analyze any trends that need to be corrected dur-

ing the week and while planning for 2018. The single most beneficial aspect here is the tracking of trash complaints. Rachael can look back, instantly, to see if there's a particular dead-end or small street where trash or recycling is overlooked. This allows us to identify where Waste Management needs to focus their energies to compensate and correct the issue going forward.

If you have been to the parking lot at Tippin's Pond and walkway down to the dock, you will notice the new panoramic view of the pond. It was a week's worth of labor to remove, chip, and dispose of the various brush species we stumbled upon, not to mention the poison ivy and hornet nests! Next year will see continued expansion of the pond's view.

One of the more ambitious goals we have set out for early 2018 during the winter months, depending on snowfall, is a similar clearing of brush along the

stretch of Chestnut Ave. between 43rd and 36th streets. Although the property belongs to NJ Transit, the Township has identified this area as needing a "facelift," one that will improve the look of the neighborhood. This is approximately a half-mile of abandoned railroad bed, with a grade inclining the closer you get to the rail bridge over Route 130. Again, depending on the weather, we are planning to walk the brush back from the street's edge to the railroad ties over the winter for easier maintenance in the spring. There are other similar, smaller areas in town that we seek to tackle this winter as well. If we can knock all of those out, we can continue further on Chestnut Ave.

### No Leaf Left Behind

I would be remiss to not mention that the Department of Public Works will continue to pick-up large leaf piles until Dec. 29. Those that bag their leaves can place them at the curb for Wednesday yard debris pickup by Waste Management throughout the year. After Jan. 1, we officially switch our equipment over to winter attachments for the bulk of the winter season and require the bagging of leaves.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach us at (856) 663-0178 or e-mail [publicworks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:publicworks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us).

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Our heartfelt wishes are with you and yours. We hope that the peace of the season will be with you as you continue life's journey.

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### TALKIN' TRASH

BOTH CHRISTMAS, MONDAY, DEC. 25, AND NEW YEAR'S DAY,  
MONDAY, JAN. 1, ARE "TRASH HOLIDAYS."

On those weeks, that Monday's trash and recycling collection occur on Tuesday. Tuesday's trash and recycling pick up will be on Wednesday. Wednesday's yard waste and white goods collection will be on Thursday. Thursday's scheduled trash and recycling will be collected on Friday. Friday's collection will occur on Saturday, beginning at 6:00 a.m.

*Holiday*  
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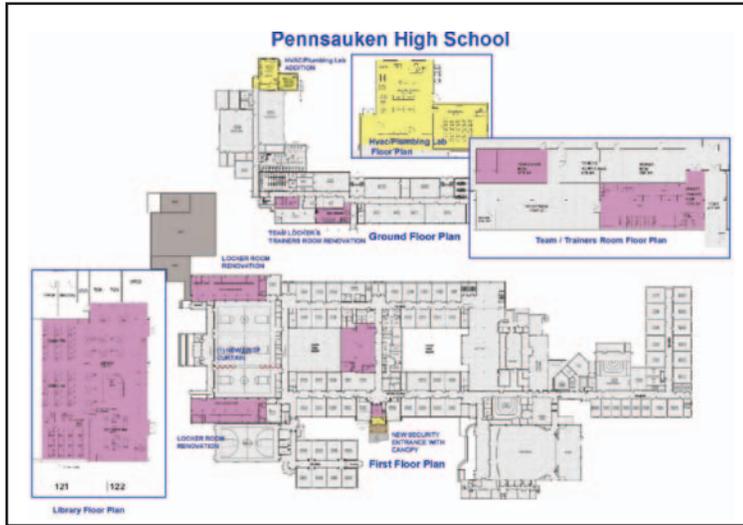
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## Pennsauken School District To Hold Bond Referendum Vote On March 13



Upgraded facilities at Pennsauken High School are just a few of the items being addressed via a proposed bond referendum that is designed to make significant improvements to every public school in the Township.

*continued from page 1*

gymnasium; extensive renovations at Pennsauken High School, with improvement being made to the auditorium, library, locker rooms, and gymnasium; construction of a plumbing lab, a new field house, and new tennis courts at the high school; and more.

“When the schools were originally built, security wasn’t an issue. They were community schools. Today, security is a major issue and we have to address that in all of our schools,” explains Billy Snyder, a teacher at Pennsauken High School. “We also need to position ourselves to compete with other schools. Twenty years ago, when I started to teach, there wasn’t any real competition with public schools. We now have to compete with private schools, parochial

schools, other public schools. We have to create programs that other schools have – we have to do them better – and that other schools can’t offer. I think the referendum puts Pennsauken Public Schools in a position to move forward and compete with other schools in this area. We have to do that. We have to make Pennsauken Schools a place that people want to come to. We want people to choose Pennsauken.”

“These changes will allow the Pennsauken School District to be a true powerhouse, providing a wide variety of opportunities for our students,” adds Tarchichi.

In addition to the overall performance of a more connected student body, Pennsauken residents will also benefit from the improved facilities. The park at

the Longfellow site would be accessible to the local neighborhood and include a playground, walking path, gazebo, and pickleball courts. The high school track will be open to the community for walking; and the new field house and Roosevelt’s gym will be available for local use. In addition, the proposed turf, multi-purpose field at the high school would also be available for youth football, soccer, and other tournaments, as well as band competitions under the lights.

The timing of this referendum couldn’t be more beneficial, according to District officials. With the retirement of the bond debt from the building of Fine, Delair, and Intermediate schools, combined with state aid, the proposed bond referendum will actually reduce school taxes. For example, a resident with an assessed home of approximately \$140,000 will see a reduction of \$11.06; these savings take into account both the comprehensive improvements and the District’s regular operating budget.

“We’re dropping off a bond referendum that was done 20 years ago,” explains Tarchichi. “We pay it off and replace it with a smaller referendum that impacts the entire district. That goes from pre-k all the way up to the high school.”

“The issue is how can we do all this and not impact the taxpayers? The easi-

est way to do this is to put together a bond referendum, which encompasses improvements in all 13 schools,” continues Nick Perry, president, Pennsauken Township Board of Education. “We’re trying to improve our schools for the future. We also have to make sure that whatever we’re doing is on solid financial ground. This bond referendum allows us to do both.”

School officials went on to say that with improved facilities and new programs, overall student test scores will improve.

“The number one thing that schools are evaluated on is tests,” explains Snyder. “Students do better when they’re connected. This referendum is going to allow us to add programs that engage our students and make them more connected to their education. As a result, they’re going to do better in school. And that means test scores are going to go up. You won’t be teaching to the test; you’ll be creating an environment where kids – whether they’re looking to college or a career in a trade – are more excited to learn. That will ultimately lead to better test scores.”

### Learn About The Referendum On December 8

As part of an outreach to the community, the Pennsauken School District has

planned several town hall meetings where the community can learn about the proposed bond referendum. The first of these will be a “Taste of Pennsauken” event on Friday, Dec. 8, 6:00 p.m. at the P.Y.A.A. Field House, 3501 Elm Ave. In addition to learning in detail about the proposed plans and the opportunity to ask questions about the initiative, the Pennsauken School District is taking the opportunity to recognize Rick Taylor, a member of Pennsauken Township Committee and a longtime educator who has made a significant impact for generations of Pennsauken students.

“Mr. Taylor is on my ‘Mt. Rushmore’ of Pennsauken,” says Snyder. “It’s really fitting that we take an opportunity to recognize what he’s done for our community.”

“It seems we all have a story about Mr. Taylor and how he’s made a difference in our lives. It’s great that we can do something to honor him,” adds Jack Killion, Jr., a teacher at Howard M. Phifer Middle School. “And for those who have questions about the referendum, come on out and ask them. We’ll be more than happy to answer them so that you can make an informed decision.”

For more information or questions, visit [GrowingPennsaukenSchools.com](http://GrowingPennsaukenSchools.com) or e-mail [pennsauken.referendum@gmail.com](mailto:pennsauken.referendum@gmail.com).

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- 12/8 Christmas Carol Sing-a-long 7:00 PM
- 12/16 Wind Symphony of Southern New Jersey in concert – 3:30 PM
- 12/17 Christmas Cantata -10:00am  
The Chancel Choir and guest musicians will be presenting “Sing Joy to All the World! A Christmas Celebration” by Lloyd Larson
- 12/24 - Two Services Christmas Eve  
7 PM - Family Service & Christmas Pageant  
11 PM - Traditional Candlelight Service

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## FRIENDS of the LIBRARY Congratulations To The Winners Of Friends Of The Library Raffle

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library

The six lucky winners of our fall raffle, who won baskets worth more than \$300 each filled with gift cards and other merchandise donated by generous merchants in our area, will be celebrating the holidays in style, no doubt. After treating themselves at local restaurants, maybe some of their winnings will help add a few surprises to their fortunate gift recipients during this upcoming holiday season. The winners were Cheryl Merlino, Linda Martin, Lynn McHugh, Thuy Quang, Judy Schinog, and Shannon Shah. We congratulate them and appreciate their support, along with everyone else who bought tickets in this year's raffle to help the Pennsauken Free Public Library. But if your name wasn't among those selected, take heart; there's always next year.

Elsewhere, there's a lot happening. On Dec. 2, we'll hold a free pain/stress management workshop in the Community Room from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. with hypnotherapist Margaret Worthington. Be sure to sign up in advance by visiting or calling the circulation desk; and be prepared to learn ways to stay calm and stress-free, especially during this hectic time of year.

And speaking of hectic, scratch cookie baking off your list, because the Friends are here to rescue you from the chore. On Saturday, Dec. 9, from noon

– 4:00 p.m., we'll hold another of our now-famous cookie sales in the Library lobby. Our wonderful selection of flavors promises to save you time and energy and help the library to boot. Come early though, because we can't guarantee how long the supplies will last; and you definitely won't want to miss out. Remember to show your Friends of the Library membership card for your free bag of cookies!

This last Munch and a Movie of the year is moving to Wednesday, Dec. 13, just for this month. Pack your lunch and bring you and your friends to the Community Room from 12:30 – 3:00 p.m. for the movie, snacks and beverages we'll provide, along with lots of fun. Call the circulation desk in advance for the name of the movie if you don't want to be surprised.

Finally, here's a suggestion for a special someone on your gift list, or maybe a colleague or loved one who has passed and whom you'd like to commemorate. A beautiful bronze leaf on Ira's Tree of Knowledge is a permanent way to honor them and let them and others know how much they mean to you. Since we rededicated Ira's Tree a few months ago, nearly a dozen leaves have been bought and dedicated in ceremonies held in the Library, many of which you can see on our Facebook page. Annette Fine, who purchased the tree in memory of her late

husband Ira, a dedicated patron of the Pennsauken Library, recently bought the first new leaf in honor of her grandchildren, Emily, Nathan, Harrison, Jacob, and Frank. Other purchases honor Agnes V. Rash, "an ardent reader;" and the Piperno Family. Anna P. Householder was remembered by her three daughters, who chose the spot for their mother's leaf next to Anna's lifelong friend. The Merchantville Stamp Club honored its founder, Henry Applegate, who passed away last summer. Daisaku Ikeda, a Buddhist philosopher, educator, author, and anti-nuclear activist, was honored with his own leaf. As the founding president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), the photos from his leaf dedication garnered more than 1,000 hits in his honor on our Facebook page. Another donor, Doug Howie of Howie Electrical, Inc. dedicated his leaf to "Pennsauken Proud;" pictures during the dedication show him and his wife attaching their leaf to the huge tree on the Library's lobby wall. Another local organization bought a leaf to demonstrate their support for the Friends and engraved it "Pennsauken Neighbors Helping Neighbors." Three leaves to go up on the tree soon will honor members of the Friends whose recent passing have saddened us all: Patricia Stevens, Bill Martell, and Sam Kleinburd, all lifetime members remembered for their service and dedi-

cation. And the latest leaf, purchased by Hugh and Kathleen O'Connell, was donated to the Friends as their way of saying "thanks" for their service to the Library.

It's easy to purchase a leaf; you can let us know what you want engraved on it, where you'd like it placed on the tree, and even hang it yourself if you'd like. We don't want to go out on a limb here, but isn't dedicating one of these beautiful leaves to someone special a unique way of letting them and others know how much you care?

You'll find information about pur-

chasing and engraving in the brochure on the lobby desk; while you're there, check out what others have written on their leaves.

We have all sorts of plans in the works for 2018: adult yoga, a musical concert, lectures, more cookie sales, and other events we'll keep you up to date on. In the meantime though, the Friends of the Pennsauken Library thank everyone for their support throughout the year to help our efforts to help the Library. We wish everyone a very happy and joyous holiday season and look forward to a prosperous and healthy 2018.

## Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club Holds Holiday Open Houses

Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club is having open houses throughout the holiday season. Located in the basement of Grace Episcopal Church, 7 East Maple Ave., Merchantville, the display features a two-rail, O gauge model railroad, including 4,000 linear feet of track and a reproduction of Philadelphia's 30th Street Station.

The area's largest operating O gauge model railroad display will be open to the public on the following dates:

- Friday, Dec. 1, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3, noon to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 6 and 7, noon to 3:00 p.m.



Cherry Valley Model Railroad is holding a series of open houses for the holidays.

- Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 13 and 14, noon to 3:00 p.m.
- All open houses are free to attend. Free parking is also available.

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## 1917: A Wartime Holiday Season In Our Community



By Robert Fisher-Hughes,  
AAP Columnist and  
Amateur Historian

A century ago, our community showed its character as it observed the holidays in the absence of its Doughboys, both “over there” and over here. By the month of December 1917, more than 79 men of Pennsauken and Merchantville were in the military to serve in the Great War that had raged in Europe since 1914. Most of these were in training stateside, because America was not well prepared for war in 1917. President Wilson had just won re-election in part for having kept the U.S. out of the war when Germany’s declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare and other factors changed that. Nevertheless, at least 25 local men had already entered the service before the end of April, when the United States declared war; and before the end of December, at least 28 were already in harm’s way, in Europe or on the seas stalked by U-boats.

Those local residents who were already serving in the U.S. military by December 1917 included career soldiers and sailors, who were joined by many answering the call after the declaration of war. Among them were Corporal H. Rowland Gross, Herman King of the

### LOOKING BACK IN HISTORY

Navy, and Percy Lincoln Hollinshed of the Marine Corps. These would be followed later by many more local volunteers and conscripted. Among these would be Anthony Forsthoffer, F.W. Grigg, Giovanni Veneziale, and Joseph Tinsman of the Army, as well as Albert Schleicher of the Ground Aviation Service. These were men who would not return home with their lives.

The First World War would ultimately prove apocalyptic for the old regimes of Europe and it would introduce the United States definitively to the world powers. It would also introduce new and devastating technology of death and destruction. Local men were among those to become familiar with this new technology, including Lawrence Cauffman, who joined the Aero Squadrons; Joseph Brooks, who became a crewman of the destroyer Aylwin, which hunted U-boats; Harry Sutton of Fish House, who trained for poison gas operations; and later Delair resident Joseph Angelo, who was assigned to the tank corps.

At home, the community tried to find a balance between their concern and fervor for the war and the reality of normal

life. Conscription, war bonds, rationing and shortages, Red Cross work, and victory gardens soon began to feature in everyday life. Local newspapers began not only to cover the war more closely, but to publish columns of “trench slang,” to help the folks back home follow the war and understand the letters they received from their boys over there.

Judge Frank T. Lloyd, a long-time local jurist and resident of Pennsauken, became the county chairman for the Red Cross drive that raised money and volunteers for war work in the fall and winter of 1917. He signed his letters of appeal, “In the name of our boys in France.” Local units of the Red Cross began work to aid the effort. The Merchantville effort included a surgical dressings unit that worked to help fulfill the American Red Cross pledge of 3 million surgical dressings to be sent to France. In December in successive weeks, the women volunteers created 340, 895, and 692 dressings prepared and packed for shipment before the suspension of activity for the holiday.

Local women served in more ways than one. Among the first to enter the military service in 1917 was Elizabeth Atkinson, who lived on 47th St. As a nurse, Elizabeth was badly needed when she enlisted in October; and she shipped

out in December to remain serving overseas until 1919.

Other Red Cross work included an appeal for feather beds and pillows to be converted into smaller, comfort pillows to send to the boys. Small wipes for eye wounds were being knitted by patriotic 12-year-old girls and “knitted helmets” were being produced by some ladies to send to the boys at Camp Dix in training.

Christmas boxes were also packed with warm clothing, candies, and other “good things” to be sent to the soldiers to let them know they were not forgotten. Wesley Rapp of town was among the recipients of such a holiday box, containing a warm sweater, which may have

been neither regulation nor necessary at his posting in San Antonio, Texas.

Realizing an omission in the needs of the soldier boys, local druggist Kohlerman arranged for a tobacco drive, donating a dozen pipes and pouches to fulfill “one of the very few comforts our boys over there can enjoy.”

The more customary concerns of the holiday season were not entirely forgotten, although one appeal in the newspapers called on each woman involved in Red Cross work to not allow the holidays to “decrease the amount of her efforts on behalf of Uncle Sam.” Both Gebhardt’s drug store on Centre St. and

*continued on page 36*

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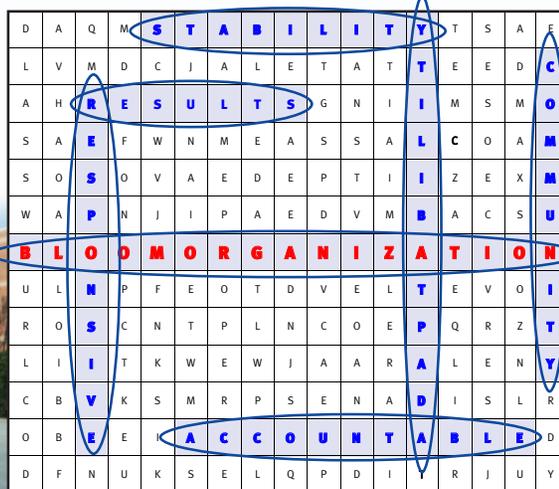
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## GOING GREEN Recovering Old Dining Room Chair Pads For The Holidays

By Kathleen Harvey,  
AAP Columnist

The house is cleaned and decorated, the tree is up; stockings are hung awaiting Santa Claus. All ready for Christmas dinner, right? Everything except those old dining room chair pads. They are decades old, stained, and not so comfortable anymore since the padding has collapsed and lost its resiliency. Last month, I discussed ways to spruce up old wood furniture. Now, we will deal with those ratty old dining room chair pads.

Materials needed include 1" foam, upholstery batting, and upholstery material; upholstery material as opposed to clothing material is crucial to be long lasting

as folks sit on it. Get about 1.5 yards of each for four chairs, or 2 yards for six chairs if the dining room set comes with captain's chairs, also known as arm chairs. Tools needed for this project include a screwdriver, pliers, hammer, scissors, yardstick, tailor's chalk, and a heavy duty staple gun (stapler with compressor works best). There are many different types of staples; for this project, use narrow crown finishing staples, 1/4" across the top, by 5/8" long.

Once the materials and tools have been gathered, detach the chair pads by unscrewing them from underneath the chairs. Be sure to keep each pad with its chair, as screw holes differ slightly from

chair to chair. Next, turn one over, lift the material from the edge, and using the pliers, remove the old staples, loosening the old material and stuffing, and exposing the frame. Some staples may be too embedded in the frame, and very difficult to remove. In this case, use the hammer to gently tap them in to ensure they are level in the wood frame. Don't whack away at the frame, old chair frames can become brittle over time, so you don't want to break them.

Using the now clean frame as a template, cut new foam to fit the frame; then

cut batting, leaving an extra 2" on each side of the batting to wrap around the edges. Place the foam on the top of the frame. Add the batting and turn it over, exposing the frame bottom, and slowly wrap the batting around the bottom edge of the chair frame. Starting in the middle of a side, staple as it's wrapped. Ensure the material stays centered around the frame to avoid a material shortage on one side. As a corner is reached, fold the material over the corner, then go back and fold down the edges. This will provide a neater corner finish. Cut away any

extra material, leaving at least a 1/2" border. Next, cut new upholstery material, leaving an extra 2" on each side to wrap around the bottom. If your upholstery material has a nap or pile, the nap needs to flow back to front. If the material has a unidirectional pattern, be sure to cut the material so the pattern is represented consistently for each chair. For example, striped material should all flow up and down, not side to side.

Fold the upholstery material underneath itself by 1/2" prior to stapling it to the frame, to create a finished look and reduce the chances of the material shredding over time. Staple through the fold, so the material doesn't unfold after stapling. Attach the corners before the sides are completely nailed down, the same as with the batting underneath. As each chair pad is finished, reattach it to the chair by screwing it to the frame, using the original screws if they are still in good shape. If new screws are used, get new screws consistent in size with the old ones.

This project may sound a bit complicated, but it's not that bad if you take your time and pay attention to the details. Once complete, and the newly reupholstered chairs are placed around the dining room table, they will be ready for more years of holiday dinner guests to eat, drink, and talk of family traditions. Happy Holidays!

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The Township of Pennsauken solicits statements of qualification from applicants for appointment to various professional positions for 2018. Responses should address the general criteria and mandatory minimum criteria for the position sought. All responses will be treated as confidential and reviewed only by the governing body, unless otherwise required by law.

Responses must be received in the

Office of the Township Clerk, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, N.J. 08110, no later than 12:00 p.m., Friday, December 15, 2017.

### Zoning And Planning Board Professional Services Contracts

The Township of Pennsauken desires to appoint several professional positions within the Township's Planning and Zoning Boards. Responses must be re-

ceived by the Office of the Planning and Zoning Officer, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, N.J. 08110, no later than 12:00 p.m., Friday, December 15, 2017.

### Rent Stabilization Board Seeks Solicitor

The Township of Pennsauken desires to appoint a Rent Stabilization Board Solicitor who will be the chief, general legal

officer of the Township of Pennsauken Rent Stabilization Board. Responses must be received in the Office of the Township Clerk, 5605 North Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, N.J. 08110, no later than 12:00 p.m., Friday, December 15, 2017.

For more information on all of these professional services contract requests, visit [www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/request-qualifications-professional-service-contracts-2018](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/request-qualifications-professional-service-contracts-2018).

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## All Around Pennsauken

Editor: FRANK SINATRA

Deadline For News:  
10th of the month

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Advertising & Production  
Publisher: MARIO DAULERIO, JR

D&D Advertising of NJ, Inc.  
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## Wedding Announcement: Singer – Hutton

Jonathan Hutton and Jaclyn Singer celebrated their marriage on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at Brigalia's in Sicklerville, N.J. with family and friends.

Jonathan is the son of James and Cathy Hutton of Pennsauken. His mother is the late Micki Hutton. Jonathan is a graduate of Camden Catholic High School and is a full time firefighter for the Township of Pennsauken.

Jaclyn is the daughter of Robert and Jackie Singer of Pennsauken. Jaclyn is a graduate of Pennsauken High School and obtained her bachelor's degree at Rutgers University in Camden. She is a business development executive at Brown & Brown Insurance.

Jaclyn and Jonathan reside in Pennsauken with their two dogs, Grizzly



Jaclyn Singer and Jonathan Hutton, both of Pennsauken, were married on November 11, 2017.

and Molly.

Want to announce an engagement or wedding? Contact [aap@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:aap@twp.pennsauken.nj.us) for more information.

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## Pennsauken Lions Provides Free Eye Screenings To Over 300 Children

Pennsauken Lions Club president Ely Mateo, as well as members July DiAmore and Mary Anne McFarland, recently went to Pennsauken public elementary schools, St. Cecilia School, Little Angels Day-care, and Merchantville Elementary

School to help conduct eye screenings for the pre-k and kindergarten students.

In total, 382 kids were screened over three weeks. Ninety-six of these children will need further exam and possibly glasses. Those children's families were sent letters with the findings from the amazing camera, which identifies 23 dif-

ferent issues with the eyes. Those issues include astigmatism, near and far sightedness, uneven power of the eyes, gaze issues, and lazy eye, amongst other things. The families were referred to the school nurse if they could not afford to take their child to an eye doctor. The school nurses have referral forms for the

South Jersey Eye Center, which offers low or no-cost exams and glasses. If needed, the Lions Club will cover any costs. The Lions would like to expand their screenings next year to other day care facilities and schools in Pennsauken. The screenings are free; all the parents or guardians need to do is fill out the permission slip. While the Lions screened more kids than last year, they still would like to get closer to 100 percent of the pre-k and kindergarten students.

The Lions Club's eyeglass "mailbox," which sits by the entrance of the Township's municipal complex at 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., was recently refurbished by two club members. It now has a phone number on it for residents to call if the box appears full when you try to drop glasses off. So far this year, the Lions have collected over 600 pair of glasses through the mailbox. If you have clear prescription glasses (no sunglasses please) you'd like to donate, take them from the case and place them in a clear sandwich bag and drop them the box. The box will be checked periodically and the glasses will be sent to the sorting

and distribution center.

Later this month, the Pennsauken Lions and the Pennsauken High School Leo Club will be helping visually impaired children during the annual Target shopping spree, which is put together with help from the New Jersey Commission for the Blind. The children are each given a \$50 gift card and paired with two or three Leo Club members, who help them shop for Christmas presents for their parents and siblings. The presents are brought to the employee lounge, where they are wrapped. The kids are given snacks and the opportunity to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The Pennsauken Lions and Leos work in conjunction with the Haddonfield Lions and Leos to make this event a special one each year. The Lions Club is open to anyone 18 years of age or older who would like to be of service to the Pennsauken Community. Anyone interested should contact Pennsaukenlionsclub@gmail.com.

*For a timeline of how the Pennsauken Lions have supported the community over the years, visit [AllAroundPennsauken.com](http://AllAroundPennsauken.com).*

# ANNOUNCING!

For the **FIRST TIME EVER**  
on New Year's Eve ...  
the world-famous  
**THE DUPREES**



Known the world over for their romantic interpretations of the **most beautiful love songs ever written**, The Duprees have made a career out of giving new life to old hits. Their 1962 interpretation of Jo Stafford's **You Belong to Me** was an instant national hit and their first million-seller. An unmistakable sound was born and the hits kept coming: • 1962 My Own True Love • 1963 Gone with the Wind, Take Me as I Am, Why Don't You Believe Me, Have You Heard, Love Eyes, It's No Sin, The Sand and the Sea • 1964 It Isn't Fair • 1966 Let Them Talk, Exodus, and more!

**See The Duprees in Haddonfield on New Year's Eve!**

Two 1-hour shows in the First Presbyterian Church: 7:00, 10:45

30 performances at 15 venues for adults, kids, families ... and **FIREWORKS AT 9PM!**

Returning to Haddonfield  
**BY POPULAR DEMAND**  
on New Year's Eve  
**THE TRAMMPS**



**Burn, baby, burn!** This legendary Philadelphia group's first recording, in 1972, was a remarkable remake of Judy Garland's 1943 hit **Zing Went the Strings of My Heart** – a bona fide chart hit. But The Trammps are best-known for the hottest song on the international disco scene – **Disco Inferno** – from the soundtrack for **"Saturday Night Fever,"** which won a Grammy and brought instant recognition on their many tours of the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia, and South America. The Trammps were inducted into the **Philadelphia Music Walk of Fame** in 2015.

**See The Tramps in Haddonfield on New Year's Eve!**

Two 1-hour shows in the Middle School Auditorium: 7:20, 10:45

**Admission just \$15!**

Full details at **FirstNightHaddonfield.org**



## 1917: A Wartime Holiday Season In Our Community

*continued from page 33*

Sapp's Emporium on Park Ave. advertised gifts, perfumes, candies, and other needs of the giving season. It was noted, however, that Christmas trees arrived for sale late and in smaller than normal quantities that year.

Concern for the less fortunate was still felt locally, as well as for the boys on duty. Sunday school classes prepared Christmas baskets to be distributed to "worthy families in this neighborhood." The Sunshine Day Nursery held a drive for toys and candy specifically to ensure that the children of the Homesteadville section would not think that Santa Claus had forgotten them. Perhaps three-year old Arnold Cream, later better known as "Jersey Joe Walcott," growing up in Homesteadville, may have benefited from these good intentions.

The war brought other privations and challenges to the local community. Coal became an important resource to the war effort and subject to government administration for its civilian use. It was reported at the beginning of December that not one ounce of coal could be found in local coal yards from Pavonia in Camden to Moorestown. Local coal dealer Walter H. Eastlack made an appeal to the state for relief; but shortly

after, the two cars of coal that had arrived were long since claimed. When a cold snap came, the boiler in Grace Episcopal Church cracked and night services had to be cancelled. Local families began to gather in one or two rooms of their homes and heat them with gaslights, causing gas pressure to lessen to the point that one could not read a newspaper by the light cast. Nevertheless, the civilian population accepted their own sacrifices so the boys in uniform would have what they needed.

The Christmas services of 1917 with choirs and cantatas; community celebrations with parties and dances; and family gatherings with feasts and gifts, gave way to the New Year's celebrations. Local folks praying for the year to come adjusted to absences and drew together. The worst of the war still lay ahead: the first casualties, boys who would never return home, and even a terrible epidemic of disease. For now, however, in this only holiday season of the Great War for America, the home front endured.

Sources for this column include: History of Pennsauken Township, Camden County, N.J. in the World War, 1917-1918, Pennsauken Township War Memorial Committee, 1919; and contemporary newspaper accounts in Camden Post Telegram, December 1917.

## inSports Bayada Home Health Care Sponsors Senior Golf Tourney

By Bill Snyder, Sr.

The directors of the Senior Pennsauken Golf Organization, Eddie Weingard, Rich Blesecker, Ron Phillips, and John Taylor, as well as course manager Quentin Griffith, would like to thank Bayada Home Health Care for sponsoring the seniors' end-of-year golf tournament. The golfers were surprised the day of the event when Bayada paid for each of them.

Mark Baiada, founder of Bayada Home Health Care, met with the 48 seniors prior to start of the tournament. He wanted to show how grateful he was to

be a part of the Pennsauken community and to be the neighbor of the Pennsauken Country Club. During his remarks, Baiada mentioned that his ties to Pennsauken go back many years, fondly remembering being a member of the Pennsauken Senior Soccer Team for many years. In fact, his brother, Mel, still plays on that team.

"It felt like coming home," explains Mark, as he talked about his feelings on the company's move to Haddonfield Rd., just adjacent to the course's second fairway.

Dave Baiada, Mark's son and Bayada Home Health Care's new president,

spoke at the golf outing's luncheon, expanding about being part of the community. He reminisced about playing soccer on the field on Wyndam Rd., which is part of the Walt Nigorski Sports Complex. Baiada explained that the friendship and guidance he received in his formative years from his Pennsauken "family" helped him become the man he is today.

Now, when Pennsauken's senior golfers play the second fairway and see the two large buildings adjacent to the course, they'll know that the caring neighbors from Bayada Home Health Care are right next door.



The Senior Pennsauken Golf Organization would like to thank Bayada Home Health Care for their sponsorship of their end-of-year golf tournament.

## Sweeney Signs Letter Of Intent For La Salle University

Pennsauken High School senior Shayla Sweeney is making a commitment to further both her academic and athletic career in college, accepting a girls basketball scholarship at Division I La Salle University.

"Thank you to the Board of Education, to the principals, her teachers, her coaches, everybody that has helped her and pushed her to this point," says Eric Mossop, athletic director, Pennsauken High School. "Thank you to her family, her first teachers and coaches. A special thank you to her mom, Bonnie, who has always made sure we were doing the right thing for daughter, Shayla. She definitely wouldn't be here without you."

Shalya begins her senior campaign already having scored 1,044 points in her high school career. She is a three-year

varsity starter and three-time all-conference honoree. Shayla has also proven her worth in the classroom, earning a cumulative 3.0 GPA.

"It's unbelievable," says Shayla, who's receiving a full ride to attend to La Salle and play guard for the Explorers. "I can make my family proud."

"I have a motor; I'm going to hustle on every play," adds Sweeney, who plans to major in criminal justice. "I can [also] shoot and play defense."

Bonnie and David Sweeney, Shayla's mom and dad, are very proud of their daughter.

"She's worked extremely hard to get this accomplishment," says Bonnie. "I always tell Shayla to always give her all in whatever she does and always reach for the stars. Anything is possible. She's ex-



Pennsauken High School senior Shayla Sweeney, seen here with her family and school district staff, has signed her national letter of intent to attend La Salle University.

celled."

"It's been a long road; she's come far," continues David. "She's doing what she's supposed to do both on the court and in the classroom. I'm extremely proud of her."

## Rams Lose Championship Game



The New Jersey Rams of Pennsauken played hard against the Camden County Street Starz, but lost the X-Bowl IV championship game 6-0. The Rams are currently looking for players for the 2018 spring season. For more info, visit "New Jersey Rams" on Facebook. Photo credit: Xtreme East Football League, Facebook.

## PYAASPORTS

### PYAA Spring Travel Soccer Registration Now Open

Online registration for PYAA Boys and Girls Spring Travel Soccer is now open until Monday, Jan. 1.

New travel players will have an additional \$75 due for home and away jerseys. This will be collected outside of the online registration system. Players switching teams may also have to purchase new jerseys. There will also be an online registration fee of \$8 associated with all online registration orders.

Visit <http://pyaanj.siplay.com/site/> for additional details about online registration.

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# inTown

## Pennsauken Kicks Off Holiday Season With 37th Annual Parade

Thousands from Pennsauken officially rang in the best time of the year with the 37th annual Holiday Parade, held along Westfield Ave. on Nov. 25. Photo credit: Kristen Weber.



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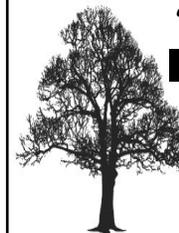
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